1999 ASSEMBLY BILL 629

December 30, 1999 – Introduced by Representatives Brandemuehl, Olsen, Kestell, Nass, Musser, Ainsworth, Plale, Wood, Albers, Spillner, Sykora, M. Lehman, Freese, Stone and Gronemus, cosponsored by Senators Grobschmidt, Breske, Rosenzweig, Wirch, Baumgart and Schultz. Referred to Committee on Colleges and Universities.

AN ACT *to create* 20.235 (1) (cx) and 39.398 of the statutes; **relating to:** creating a loan program for teachers and orientation and mobility instructors of visually impaired pupils, granting rule–making authority and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 20.005 (3) (schedule) of the statutes: at the appropriate place, insert the following amounts for the purposes indicated:

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ASSEMBLY BILL 629

1	1999-00	2000-01
2	20.235 Higher educational aids board	
3	(1) STUDENT SUPPORT ACTIVITIES	
4	(cx) Loan program for teachers and	
5	orientation and mobility instruc-	
6	tors of visually impaired pupils GPR A $-0-$	100,000
7	Section 2. 20.235 (1) (cx) of the statutes is created to read:	
8	20.235 (1) (cx) Loan program for teachers and orientation and	d mobility
9	instructors of visually impaired pupils. The amounts in the schedule for the teachers	
10	and orientation and mobility instructors of visually impaired pupils loan program	
11	under s. 39.398.	
12	Section 3. 39.398 of the statutes is created to read:	
13	39.398 Teachers and orientation and mobility instructors of visually	
14	impaired pupils loan program. (1) (a) The board shall establish a loan program	
15	to defray the cost of tuition, fees and expenses for residents of this state enrolled in	
16	a program that prepares persons to be licensed as teachers of visually impaired	
17	pupils or as orientation and mobility instructors, as defined by the board by rule, at	
18	an accredited institution of higher education in this state or in a physicall	ly adjacent
19	state, as defined in s. 175.46 (1) (d). To the extent possible, the board	shall give
20	preference, to persons who are likely to return to this state to work wit	th visually
21	impaired persons.	
22	(b) The board shall make loans under this section from the appropria	tion under
23	s. 20.235 (1) (cx). The maximum amount of a loan for a person during any	fiscal year
24	is \$10,000. The maximum amount that a person may receive under this	s section is

ASSEMBLY BILL 629

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- \$40,000. The terms of the loan shall provide that a loan recipient is not required to repay the loan while the loan recipient is enrolled in the preparatory program described in par. (a).
- (2) (a) After the recipient of a loan under sub. (1) has completed the preparatory program described in sub. (1), the board shall forgive 25% of the loan's principal and interest for the first fiscal year, 25% of the loan's principal and interest for the 2nd fiscal year and 50% of the loan's principal and interest for the 3rd fiscal year that the recipient is licensed and employed full–time in this state as a teacher of visually impaired pupils or as an orientation and mobility instructor by a school district, the Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired or a cooperative educational service agency. The board may forgive loans on a prorated basis for persons employed less than full–time.
 - (b) The board shall promulgate rules to administer this section.

14 (END)