



2009 SENATE BILL 379

November 3, 2009 – Introduced by Senators TAYLOR and HANSEN, cosponsored by Representatives BERNARD SCHABER and BERCEAU. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 119.04 (1); and **to create** 120.12 (27) of the statutes; **relating**
2 **to:** notification of school closings and reopenings.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a school district administrator may close a school because of inclement weather or because of a threat to the health or safety of pupils or school personnel. In addition, a local health officer and the Department of Health Services (DHS) may close a school to control outbreaks and epidemics.

This bill requires a school board, within 24 hours of a school being closed by a local health officer or DHS, or by a school district administrator because of a threat to the health or safety of pupils or school personnel, and within 24 hours of reopening a closed school, to notify the Department of Public Instruction that the school was closed. The first notice must include the reason for the closure; the second must specify the number of days the school was closed.

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

3 **SECTION 1.** 119.04 (1) of the statutes, as affected by 2009 Wisconsin Act 28, is
4 amended to read:

5 119.04 (1) Subchapters IV, V and VII of ch. 115, ch. 121 and ss. 66.0235 (3) (c),
6 66.0603 (1m) to (3), 115.01 (1) and (2), 115.28, 115.31, 115.33, 115.34, 115.343,

SENATE BILL 379**SECTION 1**

1 115.345, 115.361, 115.365 (3), 115.38 (2), 115.445, 115.45, 118.001 to 118.04, 118.045,
2 118.06, 118.07, 118.10, 118.12, 118.125 to 118.14, 118.145 (4), 118.15, 118.153,
3 118.16, 118.162, 118.163, 118.164, 118.18, 118.19, 118.20, 118.24 (1), (2) (c) to (f), (6)
4 and (8), 118.255, 118.258, 118.291, 118.30 to 118.43, 118.51, 118.52, 118.55, 120.12
5 (5) and (15) to ~~(25)~~ (27), 120.125, 120.13 (1), (2) (b) to (g), (3), (14), (17) to (19), (26),
6 (34), (35), (37), (37m), and (38), 120.14, 120.21 (3), and 120.25 are applicable to a 1st
7 class city school district and board.

8 **SECTION 2.** 120.12 (27) of the statutes is created to read:

9 120.12 **(27)** SCHOOL CLOSINGS AND REOPENINGS. (a) Within 24 hours of a school
10 being closed for a reason specified in s. 115.01 (10) (a) 2. or 3. or by the department
11 of health services under s. 252.02 (3), notify the department. The notice shall include
12 the reason for the closure.

13 (b) Within 24 hours of reopening a school that was closed for a reason specified
14 in s. 115.01 (10) (a) 2. or 3. or by the department of health services under s. 252.02
15 (3), notify the department that the school has reopened. In the notice, the school
16 board shall include the number of days the school was closed.

17 **SECTION 3. Initial applicability.**

18 (1) This act first applies to schools closed on the effective date of this subsection.

19 (END)