



2011 ASSEMBLY BILL 500

January 26, 2012 – Introduced by Representatives CLARK, BROOKS, HULSEY, GRIGSBY, C. TAYLOR, STEINEKE, RINGHAND, TURNER, PASCH, BEWLEY, POPE-ROBERTS, POCAN, BERCEAU, ROYS, SINICKI and SEIDEL, cosponsored by Senators HANSEN, RISSER, SCHULTZ, LASSA, C. LARSON, S. COGGS and T. CULLEN. Referred to Committee on Criminal Justice and Corrections.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 948.61 (1) (b) of the statutes; **relating to:** adding kindergarten
2 to definition of school for the purposes of the gun-free school zone law and the
3 prohibition against weapons on school premises.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, with exceptions, an individual who knowingly possesses a firearm at a place that the individual knows, or has reasonable cause to believe, is in or on the grounds of a school is guilty of a Class I felony. With exceptions, an individual who knowingly possesses a firearm at a place that the individual knows, or has reasonable cause to believe, is within 1,000 feet of the grounds of a school is subject to a Class B forfeiture. With exceptions, an individual who knowingly possesses a dangerous weapon that is not a firearm on school premises is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor for a first violation or a Class I felony for a second or subsequent violation within a five-year period. For these crimes, “school” is defined as a school that provides an educational program for one or more grades between 1 and 12. This bill changes the definition of school so that it includes a prekindergarten, four-year-old kindergarten, or five-year-old kindergarten program, and specifies that it must be a facility dedicated to educational programming.

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

