



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2015 Senate Bill 449

**Senate
Amendment 2**

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2015 SENATE BILL 449

2015 Wisconsin Act 55, the 2015-17 Biennial Budget, created an experience-based licensure process for teaching technical education subjects. [s. 118.191, Stats.] 2015 Senate Bill 449 creates a parallel experience-based licensure process for teaching vocational education subjects.

Under Senate Bill 449, the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) must issue a three-year initial teaching license to teach vocational education subjects to an applicant who passes a background check and does both of the following: (1) earns a minimum score on a point system created under the bill; and (2) agrees to complete a curriculum determined by the school board of the school district in which the applicant will teach. The system assigns points both for experience in a vocational field and for pedagogical experience. An applicant must score a minimum of 25 points in each of these two categories and must earn a total score of at least 100.

Under the bill, upon expiration of an initial teaching license to teach vocational education subjects, DPI must issue a professional teaching license to the applicant if the applicant successfully completed the curriculum agreed to for initial licensure. Successful completion is determined by the school board that established the curriculum.

SENATE AMENDMENT 2

Senate Amendment 2 makes several modifications to experience-based licensure processes. The modifications specified by Senate Amendment 2 apply to experience-based licenses for vocational education, as proposed by Senate Bill 449, as well as experience-based

licenses for technical education, as created by 2015 Wisconsin Act 55. Specifically, the amendment does the following:

- Limits the use of an initial teaching license to authorize an individual to teach only in the school district that determined the curriculum the individual agreed to complete in order to qualify for the initial license.
- Voids an initial teaching license if the license holder ceases to be employed as a teacher in the school district in which the license holder is authorized to teach.
- Clarifies that a professional teaching license shall be issued by DPI only upon the expiration of the three-year term of the license holder's initial teaching license.
- If applicable, requires DPI to indicate on the license that a professional teaching license was obtained under an experience-based licensure program.

BILL HISTORY

Senate Amendment 2 was introduced by Senator Darling on January 15, 2016. On January 19, 2016, the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Commerce recommended adoption of Senate Amendment 2, and passage of Senate Bill 449, as amended, on consecutive votes of Ayes, 3; Noes, 2.

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