
Wisconsin Legislative Council

AMENDMENT MEMO



Memo published: February 17, 2020

Contact: Dan Schmidt, Deputy Director

2019 Senate Bill 537

Senate Amendment 1

2019 SENATE BILL 537

The bill establishes a grant program, to be administered by the Higher Educational Aids Board (HEAB), for the benefit of students who would qualify for tuition remission under the Wisconsin GI bill at University of Wisconsin System (UWS) or Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) institutions, but who choose to attend certain private institutions instead.

Under the bill, students eligible for the program may receive grants for the longer of 128 credits or eight semesters, less the number of credits, sessions, or semesters that the student has already received from UWS or WTCS institutions under the current Wisconsin GI bill.

SENATE AMENDMENT 1

Senate Amendment 1 clarifies that individuals who receive the grants provided under the bill or the Wisconsin GI bill are limited to the total number of grants they may receive under the two programs. Therefore, an eligible student may elect to participate in either the program created under the bill or the Wisconsin GI bill, or both, but the student may not receive more than the longer of 128 credits or eight semesters in total.

BILL HISTORY

Senate Amendment 1 was introduced by Senator Darling on November 25, 2019. Senate Amendment 1 was recommended for adoption and Senate Bill 537 was recommended for passage, as amended, by the Senate Committee on Universities, Technical Colleges, Children and Families on January 10, 2020, both by votes of Ayes, 7; Noes, 0.

On February 12, 2020, the Joint Committee on Finance recommended adoption of Senate Amendment 1 and passage of Senate Bill 537, as amended, by votes of Ayes, 16; Noes, 0.

DWS:ksm