



2013 SENATE BILL 271

August 29, 2013 – Introduced by Senators OLSEN and HARSDF, cosponsored by Representatives KESTELL, THIESFELDT, SPIROS, MURPHY, BROOKS and KNODL. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 115.88 (1) of the statutes; **relating to:** substitute special
2 education teachers and paraprofessional staffing services.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a school district, a county, and a cooperative educational service agency (CESA) receive state special education aid for the costs of contracting with a public or private agency for physical or occupational therapy services and for a variety of other services, including educational interpreters, pupil transition services, and any services approved by the state superintendent of public instruction. This bill explicitly authorizes a school district, county, and CESA to contract for substitute teaching and paraprofessional staffing services and makes the costs of such a contract eligible for special education aid.

For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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

3 **SECTION 1.** 115.88 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:
4 115.88 (1) PERSONNEL. A school board, board of control of a cooperative
5 educational service agency or, upon authorization of the county board, a county

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1 children with disabilities education board may employ, for a special education
2 program, either full-time or part-time licensed teachers, licensed coordinators of
3 special education, school nurses, licensed school social workers, licensed school
4 psychologists, licensed school counselors, paraprofessionals, licensed consulting
5 teachers to work with any teacher of regular education programs who has a child
6 with a disability in a class and any other personnel approved by the department. The
7 board may contract with private or public agencies for substitute teaching and
8 paraprofessional staffing services, physical or occupational therapy services,
9 orientation and mobility training services, educational interpreter services,
10 educational audiology, speech and language therapy, pupil transition services for
11 eligible pupils who are 18 to 21 years old, or any service approved by the state
12 superintendent, on the basis of demonstrated need. A school board may contract
13 with a charter school to provide special education services to pupils attending the
14 charter school if the charter school is under contract with the school board under s.
15 118.40 (2m) and the charter school is not an instrumentality of the school district.

16 (END)