



State of Wisconsin
2023 - 2024 LEGISLATURE

LRB-4966/1
FFK:skw

2023 SENATE BILL 620

November 7, 2023 - Introduced by Senator JAMES, cosponsored by Representatives GREEN, ARMSTRONG, MAGNAFICI, MURSAU, RETTINGER, STEFFEN and SUMMERFIELD. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 **AN ACT** *to renumber* 115.28 (63); and *to create* 115.28 (63) (bm), 118.40 (4) (ar)
2 3. and 4. and 120.12 (24m) of the statutes; **relating to:** the mental health
3 training program provided by the Department of Public Instruction.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Department of Public Instruction must establish a mental health training program under which it provides training to school district and independent charter school staff on three specific evidence-based strategies related to addressing mental health issues in schools. The three specific evidence-based strategies are 1) The Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment program, 2) Trauma Sensitive Schools, and 3) Youth Mental Health First Aid. Under this bill, DPI must annually distribute information about this mental health training program to school boards, operators of independent charter schools, and the appropriate standing committees of the legislature. Additionally, under the bill, each school board and charter school governing board must develop a plan for addressing mental health issues that arise for school staff members and pupils. The plan must include information about DPI's mental health training program. Finally, the bill requires each school board and charter school governing board to annually distribute its mental health plan to all school staff.

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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:

1 **SECTION 1.** 115.28 (63) of the statutes is renumbered 115.28 (63) (am).

2 **SECTION 2.** 115.28 (63) (bm) of the statutes is created to read:

3 115.28 **(63)** (bm) Annually, distribute information about the training offered
4 under par. (am), including any informational materials distributed during the
5 training, to school boards and operators of charter schools under s. 118.40 (2r) or (2x),
6 and to the appropriate standing committees of the legislature under s. 13.172 (3).

7 **SECTION 3.** 118.40 (4) (ar) 3. and 4. of the statutes are created to read:

8 118.40 **(4)** (ar) 3. Develop a plan for addressing the mental health of
9 instructional staff and pupils that includes at least all of the following:

10 a. How to identify a mental health condition or illness.

11 b. How the charter school will address a suspected or identified mental health
12 condition or illness.

13 c. A list of providers from whom an individual may get help for a mental health
14 condition or illness.

15 d. Information about the training provided under s. 115.28 (63).

16 4. Annually, distribute the plan developed under subd. 3. to the charter school's
17 instructional staff.

18 **SECTION 4.** 120.12 (24m) of the statutes is created to read:

19 120.12 **(24m)** MENTAL HEALTH PLAN. (a) Develop a plan for addressing the
20 mental health of school staff members and pupils that includes at least all of the
21 following:

