



1999 SENATE BILL 60

February 24, 1999 - Introduced by Senators GROBSCHMIDT, BURKE, ROESSLER, BAUMGART, DARLING, RISSER, SCHULTZ, WIRCH, BRESKE, ROSENZWEIG, CLAUSING and ERPENBACH, cosponsored by Representatives OLSEN, LA FAVE, J. LEHMAN, CULLEN, KAUFERT, RYBA, GUNDERSON, HEBL, HANDRICK, MILLER, POWERS, KREUSER, KEDZIE, RILEY, OTT, PLALE, M. LEHMAN, GRONEMUS, GOETSCH, HUBER, AINSWORTH, BOYLE, BLACK, HASENOHRL and PLOUFF, by request of the Department of Public Instruction, Wisconsin Library Association, Council on Library and Network Development, The System and Resource Library Administrators Association of Wisconsin, Wisconsin Educational Media Association. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 16.974 (7) (a), 16.974 (7) (b), 20.275 (1) (er), 20.275 (1) (et),
2 20.275 (1) (hb), 20.275 (1) (s) (title), 20.275 (1) (t) (title), 20.505 (1) (is), 20.866
3 (2) (zcm), 44.71 (2) (e), 44.72 (1) (intro.), 44.72 (1) (b), 44.72 (4) (a), 44.72 (4) (c),
4 196.218 (4r) (b), 196.218 (4r) (c) 1., 196.218 (4r) (c) 2., 196.218 (4r) (c) 3., 196.218
5 (4r) (c) 4. and 196.218 (4r) (e); and **to create** 44.70 (3m), 196.218 (4r) (a) 1m. and
6 196.218 (4r) (a) 2r. of the statutes; **relating to:** educational technology
7 assistance to public library boards, federated and consolidated public library
8 systems and the Wisconsin Schools for the Visually Handicapped and the Deaf.
9

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, certain educational agencies, including public library boards, may request financial assistance that is administered by the technology for educational achievement in Wisconsin board (TEACH board) for access to either one data line or video link. This bill specifies that federated and consolidated public library systems, the Wisconsin Schools for the Visually Handicapped and the Deaf are also eligible for such financial assistance. In addition, under the bill, if a public library board operates more than one library facility, the public library board may request assistance for access to more than one data line or video link or both.

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Also under current law, the TEACH board makes educational technology training and technical assistance grants to cooperative educational service agencies (CESAs) and to certain consortia that include a public library board. Under this bill, federated and consolidated public library systems and consortia that include federated or consolidated public library systems are also eligible for the grants.

Finally, under current law, the TEACH board makes subsidized loans to school districts and public library boards that may be used only for the purpose of upgrading and installing computer network wiring. Under this bill, federated and consolidated public library systems may also receive such loans. In addition, the loans may also be used for purchasing hardware that is necessary for direct connection to the internet and constructing certain wide area networks.

For further information see the *state* 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.** 16.974 (7) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 16.974 (7) (a) Subject to s. 196.218 (4r) (f), coordinate with the technology for
3 educational achievement in Wisconsin board to provide school districts, the
4 Wisconsin School for the Visually Handicapped, the Wisconsin School for the Deaf,
5 cooperative educational service agencies and technical college districts with
6 telecommunications access under s. 196.218 (4r) and contract with
7 telecommunications providers to provide such access.

8 **SECTION 2.** 16.974 (7) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 16.974 (7) (b) Coordinate with the technology for educational achievement in
10 Wisconsin board to provide private colleges and, public library boards and public
11 library systems with telecommunications access under s. 196.218 (4r) and contract
12 with telecommunications providers to provide such access.

13 **SECTION 3.** 20.275 (1) (er) of the statutes is amended to read:

14 20.275 (1) (er) *Principal, interest and rebates; general purpose revenue — public*
15 *library boards* libraries. A sum sufficient to reimburse s. 20.866 (1) (u) for the

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1 payment of principal and interest costs incurred in financing subsidized educational
2 technology infrastructure loans to public library boards and public library systems
3 under s. 44.72 (4) and to make full payment of the amounts determined by the
4 building commission under s. 13.488 (1) (m), to the extent that these costs and
5 payments are not paid under par. (hb).

6 **SECTION 4.** 20.275 (1) (et) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 20.275 (1) (et) *Educational technology training and technical assistance*
8 *grants.* Biennially, the amounts in the schedule for grants to cooperative educational
9 service agencies, public library systems and consortia under s. 44.72 (1).

10 **SECTION 5.** 20.275 (1) (hb) of the statutes is amended to read:

11 20.275 (1) (hb) *Principal, interest and rebates; program revenue — public*
12 *library boards libraries.* All moneys received under s. 44.72 (4) (c) to reimburse s.
13 20.866 (1) (u) for the payment of principal and interest costs incurred in financing
14 subsidized educational technology infrastructure loans to public library boards and
15 public library systems under s. 44.72 (4) and to make full payment of the amounts
16 determined by the building commission under s. 13.488 (1) (m).

17 **SECTION 6.** 20.275 (1) (s) (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 20.275 (1) (s) (title) *Educational telecommunications access support; school*
19 *districts schools, cooperative educational service agencies and technical college*
20 *districts.*

21 **SECTION 7.** 20.275 (1) (t) (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

22 20.275 (1) (t) (title) *Educational telecommunications access support; private*
23 *colleges and public library boards libraries.*

24 **SECTION 8.** 20.505 (1) (is) of the statutes is amended to read:

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1 20.505 (1) (is) *Information technology processing services to nonstate entities*
2 *and state schools*. All moneys received from local governmental units, state schools
3 and entities in the private sector for provision of computer services,
4 telecommunications services and supercomputer services under s. 16.973 (2) (b) and
5 (c) or under s. 196.218 (4r) (c) 4., to be used for the purpose of providing those services.

6 **SECTION 9.** 20.866 (2) (zcm) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 20.866 (2) (zcm) *Technology for educational achievement in Wisconsin board;*
8 *public library educational technology infrastructure loans*. From the capital
9 improvement fund, a sum sufficient for the technology for educational achievement
10 in Wisconsin board to make subsidized educational technology infrastructure loans
11 to public library boards and public library systems under s. 44.72 (4). The state may
12 contract public debt in an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000 for this purpose.

13 **SECTION 10.** 44.70 (3m) of the statutes is created to read:

14 44.70 (3m) “Public library system” has the meaning given in s. 43.01 (5).

15 **SECTION 11.** 44.71 (2) (e) of the statutes is amended to read:

16 44.71 (2) (e) Subject to s. 196.218 (4r) (f), in cooperation with the department
17 and the public service commission, provide telecommunications access to school
18 districts, private schools, cooperative educational service agencies, technical college
19 districts, private colleges and public library boards educational agencies under the
20 program established under s. 196.218 (4r).

21 **SECTION 12.** 44.72 (1) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

22 44.72 (1) EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS.
23 (intro.) From the appropriation under s. 20.275 (1) (et), the board shall award grants
24 to cooperative educational service agencies, public library systems and to consortia
25 consisting of 2 or more school districts or cooperative educational service agencies,

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1 or one or more school districts or cooperative educational service agencies and one
2 or more public library boards or public library systems, to provide technical
3 assistance and training in the use of educational technology. An applicant for a grant
4 shall submit to the board a plan that specifies the school districts ~~and~~, public library
5 boards or public library systems that will participate in the program and describes
6 how the funds will be allocated. The board shall do all of the following:

7 **SECTION 13.** 44.72 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

8 44.72 (1) (b) Give preference in awarding grants to consortia that include one
9 or more public library boards or public library systems.

10 **SECTION 14.** 44.72 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

11 44.72 (4) (a) *Subsidized loans authorized.* The board may make subsidized
12 loans under this subsection to school districts from the proceeds of public debt
13 contracted under s. 20.866 (2) (zc) and to public library boards and public library
14 systems from the proceeds of public debt contracted under s. 20.866 (2) (zcm).
15 Subsidized loans under this subsection may be used only for ~~the purpose of~~
16 upgrading the electrical wiring of school, school administration and library buildings
17 in existence on October 14, 1997, ~~and~~ installing and upgrading computer network
18 wiring for voice, data and video transmission, purchasing hardware necessary for
19 direct access to the internet and constructing wide area networks that connect school
20 and school administration buildings in a school district, public libraries or public
21 library systems.

22 **SECTION 15.** 44.72 (4) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

23 44.72 (4) (c) *Repayment of subsidized loans.* A school district's ~~or~~, public library
24 board's or public library system's total payments on a loan made under this
25 subsection shall be equal to 50% of the total debt service on the loan, as determined

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1 by the board. A school district ~~or~~, public library board or public library system is not
2 obligated to pay the remaining 50% of the debt service on the loan. The board shall
3 credit all moneys received from school districts under this paragraph to the
4 appropriation account under s. 20.275 (1) (h). The board shall credit all moneys
5 received from public library boards and public library systems under this paragraph
6 to the appropriation account under s. 20.275 (1) (hb).

7 **SECTION 16.** 196.218 (4r) (a) 1m. of the statutes is created to read:

8 196.218 (4r) (a) 1m. “Educational agency” means a school district, private
9 school, cooperative educational service agency, technical college district, private
10 college, public library system or public library board or the Wisconsin School for the
11 Visually Handicapped or the Wisconsin School for the Deaf.

12 **SECTION 17.** 196.218 (4r) (a) 2r. of the statutes is created to read:

13 196.218 (4r) (a) 2r. “Public library system” has the meaning given in s. 43.01
14 (5).

15 **SECTION 18.** 196.218 (4r) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

16 196.218 (4r) (b) The commission, in consultation with the department and the
17 board, shall promulgate rules establishing an educational telecommunications
18 access program to provide ~~school districts, private schools, cooperative educational~~
19 ~~service agencies, technical college districts, private colleges and public library~~
20 ~~boards~~ educational agencies with access to data lines and video links.

21 **SECTION 19.** 196.218 (4r) (c) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

22 196.218 (4r) (c) 1. Allow ~~a school district, private school, cooperative~~
23 ~~educational service agency, technical college district, private college and public~~
24 ~~library board~~ an educational agency to make a request to the board for access to
25 either one data line or one video link, except that if a school district operates more

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1 than one high school or if a public library board operates more than one library
2 facility the rules shall allow the school district or public library board to request
3 access to both a data line and a video link and to request access to more than one data
4 line or video link. The board shall forward requests received under this subdivision
5 to the commission and the department.

6 **SECTION 20.** 196.218 (4r) (c) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

7 196.218 (4r) (c) 2. Establish eligibility requirements for a ~~school district,~~
8 ~~private school, cooperative educational service agency, technical college district,~~
9 ~~private college and public library board~~ an educational agency to participate in the
10 program established under par. (b). The requirements shall prohibit a participant in
11 the program from receiving assistance from the universal service fund for the
12 purpose specified in sub. (5) (a) 3. for educational telecommunications access that is
13 substantially similar to the access provided to the participant under the program.

14 **SECTION 21.** 196.218 (4r) (c) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:

15 196.218 (4r) (c) 3. Establish specifications for a data line or video link that is
16 provided to a ~~school district, private school, cooperative educational service agency,~~
17 ~~technical college district, private college and public library board~~ an educational
18 agency under the program established under par. (b).

19 **SECTION 22.** 196.218 (4r) (c) 4. of the statutes is amended to read:

20 196.218 (4r) (c) 4. Require a ~~school district, private school, cooperative~~
21 ~~educational service agency, technical college district, private college and public~~
22 ~~library board~~ an educational agency to pay the department not more than \$250 per
23 month for each data line or video link that is provided to the ~~school district, private~~
24 ~~school, cooperative educational service agency, technical college district, private~~
25 ~~college and public library board~~ educational agency under the program established

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1 under par. (b), except that the charge may not exceed \$100 per month for each data
2 line or video link that relies on a transport medium that operates at a speed of 1.544
3 megabits per second.

4 **SECTION 23.** 196.218 (4r) (e) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 196.218 (4r) (e) If the federal communications commission promulgates or
6 modifies rules that provide rate discounts for telecommunications services to school
7 districts, private schools, cooperative educational service agencies, technical college
8 districts, private colleges or public library boards an educational agency under 47
9 USC 254, the governor shall submit a report to the joint committee on finance that
10 includes any recommended changes to statutes or rules with respect to funding the
11 program established under par. (b).

12 (END)