



1997 ASSEMBLY BILL 20

January 28, 1997 - Introduced by Representatives NASS, PORTER, MUSSER, M. LEHMAN, WARD, HAHN, JENSEN, OWENS, GROTHMAN, OTT and GUNDERSON. Referred to Committee on Mandates.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 43.70 (1), 43.70 (2), 119.32 (6), 120.08 (2) (a) and 120.18 (1) (a)
2 of the statutes; **relating to:** the method of estimating the number of children
3 residing in a school district for purposes of taking an annual school count.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, annually each school district must certify to the department of public instruction (DPI) a report of the total number of persons between the ages of 4 and 20 residing in the school district (school census). DPI then uses the school census to apportion to each school district the moneys received as income in the common school fund for the school districts to use to purchase library books and other instructional materials for the school libraries. Current law permits a school district to estimate the number of persons in the school census by using statistically significant sampling techniques that have been approved by DPI.

This bill permits a school board to estimate the number of persons between the ages of 4 and 20 residing in the school district by using a process, rather than statistically significant sampling techniques, that has been approved by the school board. The bill also eliminates all statutory references to a "school census" and instead refers to a counting of the persons residing in a school district as a "count".

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:

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1 **SECTION 1.** 43.70 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 43.70 (1) No later than October 15 of each year, each school district
3 administrator shall certify to the department, on forms provided by the department,
4 a report of the total number of ~~children~~ persons between the ages of 4 and 20 years
5 residing in the school district on the preceding June 30. The number may be
6 estimated by using ~~statistically significant sampling techniques that have~~ a process
7 that has been approved by the department school board of the school district
8 certifying the report.

9 **SECTION 2.** 43.70 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

10 43.70 (2) Annually, within 40 days after December 1, the department shall
11 ascertain the aggregate amount of all moneys received as income in the common
12 school fund prior to that December 1 and shall apportion such amount to the school
13 districts in proportion to the number of ~~children~~ persons resident therein between
14 the ages of 4 and 20 years, as shown by the census report certified under sub. (1).

15 **SECTION 3.** 119.32 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:

16 119.32 (6) The superintendent of schools shall take an annual ~~census~~ count of
17 all persons between the ages of 4 and 20 residing in the city and at the same time shall
18 collect such additional statistics and information relating to schools and the
19 population entitled to school privileges in the city as the board directs. The ~~census~~
20 count may be estimated by using ~~statistically significant sampling techniques that~~
21 have a process that has been approved by the department board.

22 **SECTION 4.** 120.08 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

23 120.08 (2) (a) Upon petition filed with the school district clerk signed by 3% of
24 the number of heads of families residing in the school district as enumerated by the
25 last school ~~census~~ count or 100 electors, whichever is less ~~fewer~~, or upon the motion

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1 of the school board in a common or union high school district, a special meeting shall
2 be called by the school district clerk or, in his or her absence, by the school district
3 president or school district treasurer. If the petition includes a subject beyond the
4 power of the special meeting to transact, the school district clerk shall reject such
5 subject and so notify each elector signing the petition.

6 **SECTION 5.** 120.18 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 120.18 (1) (a) Except in a union high school district, ~~the school census, showing~~
8 ~~the numbers and ages of children~~ a count of all persons between the ages of 4 and 20
9 residing in the school district. The census count may be estimated by using
10 ~~statistically significant sampling techniques that have~~ a process that has been
11 approved by the ~~department~~ school board of the school district. Children cared for
12 at a charitable or penal institution of this state may not be included in the report.
13 The school district clerk may employ a competent person to take the ~~school census~~
14 count.

15 **SECTION 6. Effective date.**

16 (1) This act takes effect on July 1, 1998.

17 (END)