



1997 ASSEMBLY BILL 869

March 2, 1998 - Introduced by Representatives KELSO, SPILLNER, SCHAFFER, HAHN, GUNDERSON and DOBYNS, cosponsored by Senators DARLING and COWLES. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 **AN ACT to create** 118.19 (10m) of the statutes; **relating to:** background
2 investigations of persons employed by school boards.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current law requires the department of public instruction (DPI) to conduct a background investigation of each applicant for issuance or renewal of a license or permit and, over a 5-year period ending in 1999, to conduct a background investigation of each person who holds a life license (a license, issued by DPI, that has no expiration date) and who is employed by an educational agency. If the person is a nonresident or if DPI determines that the person's employment, licensing or state court records provide a reasonable basis for further investigation, DPI must require the person to be photographed and fingerprinted.

This bill requires DPI, with the assistance of the department of justice, to conduct a background investigation of any school board employe upon the request of the school board. DPI must require the person to be photographed and fingerprinted. The school board making the request must pay the costs of the background investigation.

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.** 118.19 (10m) of the statutes is created to read:
4 118.19 (**10m**) A school board may request the state superintendent to conduct
5 a background investigation of any school board employe. Upon receiving such a

1 request, the state superintendent, with the assistance of the department of justice,
2 shall conduct a background investigation of the person. The state superintendent
3 shall require the person to be photographed and fingerprinted on 2 fingerprint cards,
4 each bearing a complete set of the person's fingerprints. The department of justice
5 may provide for the submission of the fingerprint cards to the federal bureau of
6 investigation for the purposes of verifying the identity of the person fingerprinted
7 and obtaining records of his or her criminal arrest and conviction.

8 (b) The school board making the request under par. (a) shall pay the costs of
9 the background investigation.

10 (END)