

1999 SENATE BILL 116

April 14, 1999 – Introduced by Senators DARLING, PANZER, HUELSMAN, ROSENZWEIG and MOEN, cosponsored by Representatives M. LEHMAN, J. LEHMAN, WASSERMAN, MUSSER, OWENS, SYKORA and LASSA. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT *to repeal* 118.33 (1) (cm) and 118.33 (1) (e); and *to create* 118.33 (1m)
2 of the statutes; **relating to:** high school graduation requirements.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, beginning in the 2002–03 school year a school board may not grant a high school diploma to a pupil unless the pupil passes a statewide examination or an examination developed or approved by the school board. A school board must excuse the pupil from the examination if the pupil's parent or guardian so requests. The school board must develop alternative criteria for evaluating a pupil who does not take the examination. A school board may grant a high school diploma to a pupil who has been excused from the examination if he or she satisfies all of the other criteria for high school graduation and satisfies the alternative criteria.

This bill directs each school board to adopt a written policy specifying the criteria for granting a pupil a high school diploma. The criteria must include the pupil's score on the high school graduation examination (unless the pupil is excused from taking the examination), and may include the pupil's academic performance, the recommendations of teachers and any other criteria specified by the school board. Beginning in the 2002–03 school year, the bill provides that a school board may not grant a high school diploma to a pupil unless the pupil satisfies the criteria specified in the school board's policy.

