

2003 SENATE BILL 383

January 9, 2004 - Introduced by Senators DARLING, PLALE, LAZICH, REYNOLDS, STEPP, MOORE, CARPENTER, COGGS and KANAVAS, cosponsored by Representatives SINICKI, JENSEN, COLON, ZEPNICK, JESKEWITZ, TAYLOR, HONADEL, RICHARDS, KRUG, CULLEN and MCCORMICK. Referred to Committee on Education, Ethics and Elections.

1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 118.40 (2r) (c) 1. and 118.40 (2r) (c) 2. (intro.); and *to create*
2 118.40 (2r) (c) 3. of the statutes; **relating to:** eligibility to attend Woodlands
3 School, a charter school located in a 1st class city school district.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, school boards may enter into contracts with individuals, groups, businesses, or governmental bodies to establish charter schools, which operate with fewer constraints than traditional public schools. Current law also permits the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, the University of Wisconsin-Parkside, the Milwaukee Area Technical College, and the city of Milwaukee to operate charter schools (independent charter schools) directly or to contract for the operation of charter schools. Only pupils who reside in the school district in which an independent charter school is located may attend the charter school. In order to be eligible to attend an independent charter school located in the Milwaukee school district, a pupil must also fall into one of the following categories:

1. In the previous school year, the pupil must have been enrolled in the Milwaukee Public Schools.
2. In the previous school year, the pupil must have attended a private school under the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP).
3. In the previous school year, the pupil must have been enrolled in grades kindergarten to three in a private school located in the city of Milwaukee other than under the MPCP.
4. In the previous school year, the pupil must not have been enrolled in school.

SENATE BILL 383

5. In the previous school year, the pupil must have been enrolled in an independent charter school.

This bill allows a pupil who resides outside of the Milwaukee school district, or who does not satisfy the requirement in Item 3., above, to continue to attend Woodlands School (an independent charter school located in the city of Milwaukee), if the pupil attended Woodlands School during the 2003-04 school year and during the previous school year. The bill also allows a pupil to attend Woodlands School if the pupil's sibling attended Woodlands School in the 2003-04 school year and in the school year of the pupil's initial attendance.

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.** 118.40 (2r) (c) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

2 118.40 (2r) (c) 1. Only Except as provided in subd. 3., only pupils who reside
3 in the school district in which a charter school established under this subsection is
4 located may attend the charter school.

5 **SECTION 2.** 118.40 (2r) (c) 2. (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

6 118.40 (2r) (c) 2. (intro.) A pupil may attend a charter school established in the
7 school district operating under ch. 119 under this subsection only if one of the
8 following applies or, for the Woodlands School, only if one of the following or subd.
9 3. applies:

10 **SECTION 3.** 118.40 (2r) (c) 3. of the statutes is created to read:

11 118.40 (2r) (c) 3. A pupil may attend Woodlands School, a charter school
12 established in the school district operating under ch. 119 under this subsection,
13 regardless of the pupil's school district of residence, if any of the following applies:

14 a. The pupil attended Woodlands School in the 2003-04 school year and,
15 beginning in the 2005-06 school year, in the previous school year.

