

State of Misconsin 2003 - 2004 LEGISLATURE

## 2003 ASSEMBLY BILL 938

March 8, 2004 – Introduced by Representatives SERATTI, GARD and ALBERS. Referred to Joint Committee on Finance.

1 AN ACT to create 20.255 (2) (ae), 115.435 (2m) and 115.436 of the statutes; 2 relating to: providing additional state aid to certain large-area, declining 3 enrollment school districts, granting rule-making authority, and making an 4 appropriation.

## Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a school district with an area of at least 200 square miles and an enrollment of fewer than 500 pupils, and in which at least 80 percent of the real property is exempt from taxation, is taxed as forest cropland, or is tribal land, is eligible for supplemental state aid of \$350 per enrolled pupil.

This bill provides that, if in any fiscal year the amount appropriated for supplemental aid is not fully expended, the balance will be used to provide a payment of \$350 per enrolled pupil to any school district that is at least 475 square miles in area and that experienced a decline in enrollment of more than 12 percent between the 2000–01 school year and the 2003–04 school year.

The bill also creates a separate categorical aid program that provides \$500 per pupil to the same school districts.

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:

|    | 2003 - 2004 Legislature - 2 - LRB-4403/1   MJL&PG:kmg:jf SECTION 1                  |
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| 1  | SECTION 1. 20.005 (3) (schedule) of the statutes: at the appropriate place, insert  |
| 2  | the following amounts for the purposes indicated:                                   |
| 3  | 2003-04 2004-05   |
| 4  | 20.255 Public instruction, department of  |
| 5  | (2) AIDS FOR LOCAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING  |
| 6  | (ae) Additional aid GPR A -0- 385,000   |
| 7  | <b>SECTION 2.</b> 20.255 (2) (ae) of the statutes is created to read:               |
| 8  | 20.255 (2) (ae) Additional aid. As a continuing appropriation, the amounts in       |
| 9  | the schedule for aid to school districts under s. 115.436.                          |
| 10 | <b>SECTION 3.</b> 115.435 (2m) of the statutes is created to read:                  |
| 11 | 115.435 (2m) (a) If in any fiscal year there is a balance in the appropriation      |
| 12 | under s. 20.255 (2) (ad) after all of the payments are made under sub. (2), the     |
| 13 | department shall use the balance to pay each school district that satisfies the     |
| 14 | following criteria an amount equal to \$350 for each pupil enrolled in the school   |
| 15 | district in the previous school year:   |
| 16 | 1. The school district is at least 475 square miles in area.                        |
| 17 | 2. The school district's enrollment declined more than 12 percent between the       |
| 18 | 2000–01 school year and the 2003–04 school year.                                    |
| 19 | (b) If the balance is insufficient to pay the full amount under this subsection,    |
| 20 | the funds shall be prorated among the entitled school districts.                    |
| 21 | <b>SECTION 4.</b> 115.436 of the statutes is created to read:                       |
| 22 | 115.436 Additional aid. (1) A school district that satisfies all of the following   |
| 23 | criteria may apply to the department by October 15 of each school year for a grant: |

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| 1  | (a) The school district's membership, as defined in s. 121.004 (5), declined more          |
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| 2  | than 12 percent between the 2001–02 school year and the 2003–04 school year.               |
| 3  | (b) The school district is at least 475 square miles in area.                              |
| 4  | (2) Beginning in the 2004–05 school year, annually by June 30 the department               |
| 5  | shall, from the appropriation under s. 20.255 (2) (ae), pay each school district that      |
| 6  | satisfies the criteria under sub. (1) \$500 for each pupil enrolled in the school district |
| 7  | in the previous school year. If the appropriation under s. $20.255(2)(ae)$ is insufficient |
| 8  | to pay the full amount under this subsection, the funds shall be prorated among the        |
| 9  | entitled school districts.   |
| 10 | (3) No aid may be paid under this section after June 30, 2009.                             |
| 11 | (4) The department shall promulgate rules to implement and administer this                 |
| 12 | section.   |
| 13 | SECTION 5. Initial applicability.  |
| 14 | (1) This act first applies to state aid distributed in the 2004–05 school year.            |
| 15 | (END)  |