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(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

## WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ... PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS

**2003-04**

(session year)

**Senate**

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

**Committee on Education, Ethics and Elections...**

### **COMMITTEE NOTICES ...**

- Committee Reports ... **CR**
- Executive Sessions ... **ES**
- Public Hearings ... **PH**

### **INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL**

- Appointments ... **Appt** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Clearinghouse Rules ... **CRule** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Hearing Records ... bills and resolutions (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)  
(**ab** = Assembly Bill)                      (**ar** = Assembly Resolution)                      (**ajr** = Assembly Joint Resolution)  
(**sb** = Senate Bill)                              (**sr** = Senate Resolution)                              (**sjr** = Senate Joint Resolution)
- Miscellaneous ... **Misc**



May 14, 2003

**EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD**

Present: (7) Senators Ellis, S. Fitzgerald, Reynolds, Stepp, Jauch,  
Robson and Hansen.

Absent: (0) None.

Moved by Senator Jauch, seconded by Senator Hansen that **SSAs0063/1**  
be recommended for introduction and adoption.

Ayes: (7) Senators Ellis, S. Fitzgerald, Reynolds, Stepp, Jauch,  
Robson and Hansen.

Noes: (0) None.

INTRODUCTION AND ADOPTION OF SSAS0063/1  
RECOMMENDED, Ayes 7, Noes 0

Moved by Senator Reynolds, seconded by Senator Jauch that **Senate Bill**  
**25** be recommended for passage as amended.

Ayes: (7) Senators Ellis, S. Fitzgerald, Reynolds, Stepp, Jauch,  
Robson and Hansen.

Noes: (0) None.

PASSAGE AS AMENDED RECOMMENDED, Ayes 7, Noes 0

Michael Boerger  
Committee Clerk



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION  
TESTIMONY ON 2003 SENATE BILL 25  
March 26, 2003

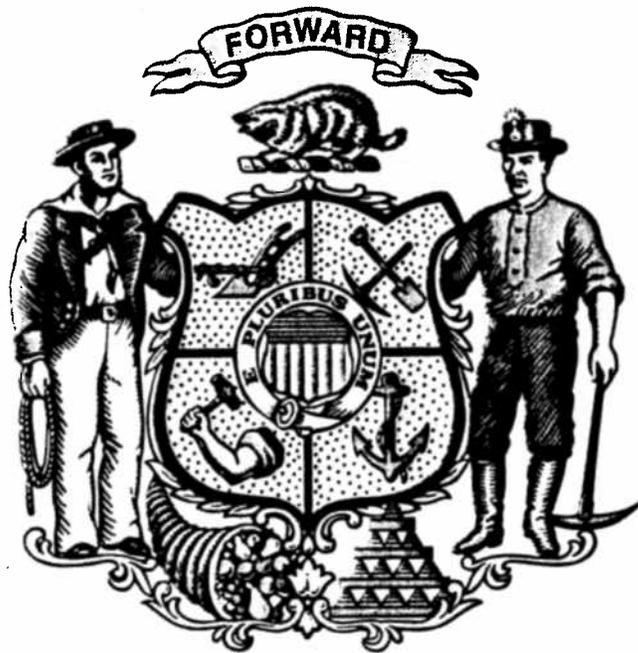
Good morning. My name is Mary Jo Cleaver. As the administrator of the public school open enrollment program, I am representing the Department of Public Instruction and am testifying in support of Senate Bill 25.

The bill allows nonresident school boards to establish waiting lists. Available seats go unfilled each year because students whose applications are accepted decide not to participate. Waiting lists could allow more students to participate. Open enrollment is a complex program and waiting lists would add to the complexity and to the workload for school districts. This bill makes waiting lists optional for school boards, so if an individual district is not willing to take on the additional work of maintaining a waiting list, it would not be required to do so.

The bill requires the department to promulgate rules to implement the bill. Some of the types of questions that would need to be answered in such rules might include:

1. How must the students be selected for the waiting list?
2. How long must a parent be given to respond to an approval from the waiting list before the seat may be offered to the next student on the list?
3. If a parent has already accepted an open enrollment offer from one of the districts to which the parent applied, may the parent accept an offer from another district if the student is selected from the waiting list?
4. Should there be a cut-off date for choosing students from the waiting list?
5. If a district chooses not to establish a waiting list, should that district be allowed to fill unclaimed open enrollment seats by charging tuition to parents?
6. How would a waiting list affect the appeals process?
7. How does a waiting list affect the requirement that the resident district must be notified by June 30 of the students who intend to open enroll?

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill. I would be happy to answer any questions.



**Testimony of State Senator Tom Reynolds**  
**2003 Senate Bill 25**  
**Senate Committee on Education, Ethics and Elections**  
**March 26, 2003**

Thank you Mr. Chairman,

This legislation makes the application process in the open enrollment program more fair by allowing school districts to compile a waiting list of open enrollment applicants. Since a student may apply to – and thus accepted by – more than one school, another student may be unnecessarily prevented from attending the school of their choice. Maintaining a waiting list would enable a school district to enroll an alternate student if a pupil already accepted through the program decides to attend school elsewhere. This change would allow school districts to enroll the maximum number of applicants

These modifications to the open enrollment program contained in this legislation have been requested by the Wauwatosa School District, which I represent, and is also supported by the Wisconsin Association of School Boards.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.