

DRAFTER'S NOTE
FROM THE
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

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Senator Leibham:

Recently, Congress enacted the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-171), which in part amended 20 USC 1091 (r) to limit suspension of federal student aid eligibility for students who are convicted of drug offenses to students who are convicted "*for conduct that occurred during a period of enrollment for which the student was receiving... assistance.*" Previous federal law rendered a student ineligible if he or she had been convicted of a drug offense at any time preceding or during receipt of federal student aid. Because 2005 SB-187 was intended to create a parallel provision for state student aid and because ASA 1 to 2005 AB 1035, the companion bill to 2005 SB-187, which passed the assembly last session, included that limiting language, this draft includes that limiting federal language.

2005 SB-187 applies only to financial assistance provided by the Higher Education Aids Board and the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System. On closer inspection, however, the Technical College System Board awards financial assistance to its students, the Department of Military Affairs provides tuition grants to national guard members, the Department of Veterans Affairs provides tuition reimbursement for veterans and personal loans for the education of deceased veterans' children, and the Department of Commerce provides educational loan repayments for doctors, dentists, and other health care providers practicing in shortage areas. Do you wish to cover those forms of financial assistance as well?

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