2007 ASSEMBLY BILL 441

July 3, 2007 – Introduced by Representatives MURSAU and NYGREN. Referred to Committee on Education.

AN ACT relating to: eligibility for the public school Open Enrollment Program for certain residents of the Marinette School District.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Currently, under the full−time Open Enrollment Program, a pupil may apply to attend a public school in a school district other than the pupil’s resident school district if certain conditions are met. The deadline for submitting an application to the nonresident school district that a pupil wishes to attend is the third Friday following the first Monday in February in the school year preceding the school year of attendance.

In May 2007, the Marinette School District voted to close Porterfield Elementary School at the end of the 2006−07 school year.

This bill allows the parents of a pupil who would have been eligible to attend Porterfield Elementary School in the 2007−08 school year to apply, within five days after the effective date of this bill, to attend a public school in a nonresident school district under the Open Enrollment Program.

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:

SECTION 1. Nonstatutory provisions.
(1) **Open Enrollment Program; Extension of Application Period.**

Notwithstanding section 118.51 (3) of the statutes, the following timeline applies to the parent of a pupil who resides in the Marinette School District, who would have been eligible to attend Porterfield Elementary School in the 2007–08 school year if the Marinette school board had not voted to close the school, and who wishes to attend a public school in a nonresident school district in the 2007–08 school year under section 118.51 of the statutes:

(a) The parent shall submit an application to the school board of the nonresident school district within 5 days after the effective date of this paragraph. Upon receipt of the application, the nonresident school board shall send a copy to the school board of the Marinette School District and the department of public instruction.

(b) Not before the 6th day after the effective date of this paragraph, but by the 12th day after the effective date of this paragraph:

1. The nonresident school board shall notify the applicant whether it has accepted the pupil and, if it has accepted the pupil, the specific school or program that the pupil may attend in the 2007–08 school year.

2. If the Marinette school board denies a pupil’s enrollment in a nonresident school district, it shall notify the applicant and the nonresident school board.

(c) Within 7 days after receiving notice of acceptance under paragraph (b) 1., the pupil’s parent shall notify the nonresident school board of the pupil’s intent to attend school in that school district in the 2007–08 school year.
(d) By September 1, 2007, each nonresident school board that has accepted a pupil under this subsection for attendance in the 2007–08 school year shall report the name of the pupil to the Marinette school board.