



2009 ASSEMBLY BILL 537

October 29, 2009 – Introduced by Representatives POPE-ROBERTS, DEXTER, SINICKI and HIXSON. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 **AN ACT** *to repeal* 115.395 (1); *to renumber* 115.395 (title); *to renumber and*
2 *amend* 115.395 (2), 115.395 (3) and 115.395 (4); and *to amend* 20.255 (2) (df)
3 of the statutes; **relating to:** grants for improving academic achievement.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the school board of the Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) may apply to the Department of Administration (DOA) for an annual grant to be used by MPS to improve pupil academic achievement. MPS must include with the application a plan describing the initiatives for which the grant moneys will be used. If DOA approves the plan, it must notify the Department of Public Instruction (DPI), and the state superintendent must pay MPS the amount specified in the notice from DOA.

This bill changes the department to which MPS may apply for a grant from DOA to DPI.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

4 **SECTION 1.** 20.255 (2) (df) of the statutes is amended to read:

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1 20.255 (2) (df) *Grants for improving pupil academic achievement.* The amounts
2 in the schedule for grants to the school district operating under ch. 119 to improve
3 pupil academic achievement under s. ~~115.395~~ 119.245.

4 **SECTION 2.** 115.395 (title) of the statutes is renumbered 119.245 (title).

5 **SECTION 3.** 115.395 (1) of the statutes is repealed.

6 **SECTION 4.** 115.395 (2) of the statutes is renumbered 119.245 (2) and amended
7 to read:

8 119.245 (2) Beginning in the 2008–09 school year, the board may apply to the
9 department of administration for an annual grant of up to \$10,000,000 to implement
10 initiatives to improve pupil academic achievement in all grades, such as employing
11 licensed teachers to tutor pupils who are struggling academically, or employing
12 persons to coordinate the district’s instructional programs and provide ongoing
13 professional development for teachers. The board shall submit with its application
14 a plan for the ~~department of administration’s~~ department’s approval describing the
15 initiatives for which the grant will be used, describing the research showing that the
16 initiatives have a positive effect on pupil academic achievement, and including
17 criteria for evaluating the effectiveness of the initiatives, such as high school
18 graduation rates or the results of the statewide pupil assessments under ch. s.
19 118.30.

20 **SECTION 5.** 115.395 (3) of the statutes is renumbered 119.245 (3) and amended
21 to read:

22 119.245 (3) The ~~department of administration~~ may approve the plan submitted
23 under sub. (2) in whole or in part. If the department approves a plan in part, the
24 board may submit an additional plan for the same school year and the department
25 may award the board all or part of the balance of grant funds.

