February 24, 2012 – Introduced by Representatives KRUG, FIELDS, TRANEL, SPANBAUER, KAUFERT, RIVARD, ENDSLEY, BROOKS, A. OTT and VAN ROY. Referred to Committee on Education.

AN ACT to create 36.11 (22m), 38.12 (12), 118.30 (8) and 120.12 (26) of the statutes; relating to: incorporating financial literacy in public schools’ curriculum and statewide standardized examinations and requiring that it be covered during orientation programs at the University of Wisconsin System and the technical colleges.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill directs each school board to incorporate the state’s model academic standards for financial literacy into the curriculum in grades kindergarten to 12. The bill also requires the statewide standardized examinations to assess a pupil’s financial literacy to the same extent that they assess a pupil’s knowledge of mathematics, science, reading and writing, geography, or history.

Finally, the bill requires that each institution and campus within the University of Wisconsin System, and each technical college district board, incorporate in its orientation program for newly entering students information on financial literacy.

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. 36.11 (22m) of the statutes is created to read:

36.11 (22m) FINANCIAL LITERACY. The board shall direct each institution and
college campus to incorporate in its orientation program for newly entering students
information on financial literacy.

SECTION 2. 38.12 (12) of the statutes is created to read:

38.12 (12) FINANCIAL LITERACY. The district board shall incorporate in its
orientation program for newly entering students information on financial literacy.

SECTION 3. 118.30 (8) of the statutes is created to read:

118.30 (8) (a) The department shall ensure that the examinations adopted or
approved under sub. (1) assess a pupil’s financial literacy to the same extent that
they assess a pupil’s knowledge of mathematics, science, reading and writing,
geography, or history.

(b) If a school board or operator of a charter school under s. 118.40 (2r)
administers its own examination under sub. (1m) (a) 2. or (am) 2. or (1r) (a) 2. or (am)
2., it shall ensure that the examination assesses a pupil’s financial literacy to the
same extent that it assesses a pupil’s knowledge of mathematics, science, reading
and writing, geography, or history.

SECTION 4. 120.12 (26) of the statutes is created to read:

120.12 (26) FINANCIAL LITERACY. Incorporate the state’s model academic
standards for financial literacy into the curriculum in grades kindergarten to 12.