AN ACT to amend 118.60 (1) (am) (intro.) and 118.60 (1m) of the statutes; relating to: closing the parental choice program for eligible school districts to additional school districts.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

The Biennial Budget Act, 2011 Wisconsin Act 32 (the act), created a parental choice program for eligible school districts (program). Under the program, a pupil who resides in an eligible school district may attend a participating private school if, among other requirements, the pupil is a member of a family that has a total family income that does not exceed 300 percent of the poverty level. The act defined an eligible school district as a school district located in whole or in part in a city of the second class that is eligible to receive state aid as a high poverty school district and satisfies certain requirements related to equalized value per member and shared cost per member.

This bill provides that no school district that has not already qualified as an eligible school district may qualify as an eligible school district after the effective date of this bill.

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

SECTION 1. 118.60 (1) (am) (intro.) of the statutes, as created by 2011 Wisconsin Act 32, is amended to read:
118.60 (1) (am) (intro.) “Eligible school district” means a school district that, subject to sub. (1m), satisfies all of the following:

SECTION 2. 118.60 (1m) of the statutes, as created by 2011 Wisconsin Act 32, is amended to read:

118.60 (1m) By November 15 of the 2nd fiscal year of each fiscal biennium, the department shall prepare a list that identifies eligible school districts. The department shall post the list on the department’s Internet site and shall notify in writing the school district clerk of each eligible school district. A school district that qualifies has qualified as an eligible school district under this section remains on the effective date of this act .... [LRB inserts date], shall remain an eligible school district, but no school district may qualify as an eligible school district after the effective date of this act .... [LRB inserts date].

(END)