



## 2013 ASSEMBLY BILL 617

January 10, 2014 - Introduced by Representatives KNUDSON, KESTELL, THIESFELDT, STEINEKE, PRIDEMORE, T. LARSON, SCHRAA, BERNIER, BORN, JACQUE, JAGLER, KLEEFISCH, LEMAHIEU, MURTHA, SEVERSON, SPIROS, TITTL, MARKLEIN, A. OTT, RIPP and BIES, cosponsored by Senator GROTHMAN. Referred to Committee on Education.

1     **AN ACT to create** 118.298 of the statutes; **relating to:** directing the Department  
2             of Public Instruction to establish model academic standards and granting  
3             rule-making authority.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

This bill directs the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to promulgate rules establishing model academic standards in mathematics, English, science, advanced mathematics, social studies, and arts. The bill requires DPI, in promulgating each rule, to appoint an advisory committee consisting of education professionals and members of the public and to hold a public hearing in each of the state's congressional districts.

The bill requires that the academic standards established by the rules:

1. Be clean, concise, objective, measurable, and grade-level appropriate;
2. Not require a particular teaching method or curriculum;
3. Are consistent with the U.S. and Wisconsin Constitutions; and
4. Raise pupils' academic performances.

Under the bill, the model academic standards are phased in over a six-year period beginning with mathematics in the 2016-17 school year. Each rule sunsets six years after its effective date.

Finally, the bill prohibits DPI from establishing academic standards except as provided in the bill and prohibits DPI from revising or repealing the rules promulgated under the bill.

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For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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

1           **SECTION 1.** 118.298 of the statutes is created to read:

2           **118.298 Model academic standards.** (1) For the purpose of raising the  
3 academic expectations for pupils, the department shall promulgate the following  
4 rules:

5           (a) Effective July 1, 2016, a rule establishing model academic standards in  
6 mathematics.

7           (b) Effective July 1, 2017, a rule establishing model academic standards in  
8 English.

9           (c) Effective July 1, 2018, a rule establishing model academic standards in  
10 science.

11           (d) Effective July 1, 2019, a rule establishing model academic standards in  
12 advanced mathematics.

13           (e) Effective July 1, 2020, a rule establishing model academic standards in  
14 social studies.

15           (f) Effective July 1, 2021, a rule establishing model academic standards in arts.

16           **(2)** In promulgating each rule, the department shall do all of the following:

17           (a) Appoint an advisory committee under s. 227.13 consisting of parents of  
18 school-age children; public school, private school, and charter school teachers and  
19 principals; members of school boards and charter school governing boards; members  
20 of the faculty at postsecondary institutions in this state who teach core academic  
21 subjects; members of boards of control of cooperative educational service agencies;

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1 members of a statewide organization that represents the state's business  
2 community; and other members of the public.

3 (b) Hold at least one public hearing under ss. 227.17 and 227.18 in each of this  
4 state's congressional districts.

5 (c) Ensure that the rule-making process is open to the public to the greatest  
6 extent feasible and consider all public comments.

7 (d) Ensure that the academic standard is clear, concise, objective, measurable,  
8 and grade-level appropriate.

9 (e) Ensure that the academic standard does not require a particular teaching  
10 method or curriculum.

11 (f) Ensure that the standard is consistent with the U.S. Constitution and the  
12 Wisconsin Constitution.

13 (g) Ensure that the academic standard will have the effect of raising pupils'  
14 academic performances.

15 **(2m)** (a) The advisory committee appointed under sub. (2) (a) shall meet and  
16 take public testimony before the rule-making process for the rules promulgated  
17 under this section begins and shall meet periodically thereafter during the process.

18 (b) The department shall maintain a record of the testimony before the advisory  
19 committee and a record of recommendations made by the advisory committee. The  
20 department shall make the testimony and the recommendations publicly available  
21 as quickly as possible and provide a copy to the chairpersons of the committees in the  
22 assembly and senate whose subject matter is elementary and secondary education.

23 **(3)** Each rule promulgated under this section shall specify that it does not apply  
24 beginning on the first day of the 72nd month beginning after the effective date of the  
25 rule.

