



State of Wisconsin
2015 - 2016 LEGISLATURE

LRB-4048/1
TKK:kjf&emw

2015 ASSEMBLY BILL 665

January 8, 2016 – Introduced by Representatives NEYLON, THIESFELDT, BORN, HINTZ, BROSTOFF, ROHRKASTE, RIPP, EDMING, SKOWRONSKI, T. LARSON, RODRIGUEZ, STUCK, SINICKI, ZEPNICK and GOYKE, cosponsored by Senators NASS, GUDEx, WANGGAARD, HARSDF, ROTH and L. TAYLOR. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 **AN ACT** *to create* 20.255 (2) (dr) and 115.45 of the statutes; **relating to:** grants
2 for participation in robotics competitions and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill authorizes the Department of Public Instruction to award grants to teams of pupils in the 9th through 12th grades in the 2016–17 and 2017–18 school years. The grants are to be used to facilitate participation in robotics competitions.

For further information see the **state** 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:

3 **SECTION 1.** 20.005 (3) (schedule) of the statutes: at the appropriate place, insert
4 the following amounts for the purposes indicated:

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2015-16 2016-17

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20.255 Public instruction, department of

(2) AID FOR LOCAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

(dr) Robotics league participation

grants	GPR	A	-0-	500,000
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SECTION 2. 20.255 (2) (dr) of the statutes is created to read:

20.255 (2) (dr) *Robotics league participation grants.* The amounts in the schedule for grants to robotics teams under s. 115.45.

SECTION 3. 115.45 of the statutes is created to read:

115.45 Robotics league participation grants pilot program. (1) In this section:

(a) “Allowable expenses” includes fees, kits, and supplies required to participate in a robotics competition, travel expenses to a robotics competition for eligible team members, and a stipend for the mentor of an eligible team.

(b) “Eligible team” means a robotics competition team consisting of pupils in any of the grades 9 through 12 and at least one mentor.

(c) “Robotics competition” means a competition that requires participating teams to design, construct, program, and operate robots and that is sponsored by a nonstock, nonprofit corporation, described under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code and exempt from taxation under section 501 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code, having as one of its organizational purposes encouraging young people to develop an interest in science, engineering, technology, and math.

(2) (a) No later than April 1, 2016, and no later than April 1, 2017, the department shall notify school boards, operators of charter schools under s. 118.40

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1 (2r) and (2x), and administrators of home-based private educational programs that
2 applications for grants under this section will be accepted from eligible teams
3 through a date set forth in the notice.

4 (b) From the appropriation under s. 20.244 (2) (dr), the department shall award
5 a grant of up to \$5,000 to eligible teams selected from the applicants under par. (a).
6 Grant funds awarded under this section may be applied only towards allowable
7 expenses.

8 (3) The department shall annually publish on its Internet site a list of grant
9 recipients and submit to the appropriate standing committees of the legislature
10 under s. 13.172 (3) a report on the program under this section.

11 (END)