



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2015 Assembly Bill 632

Assembly Amendment 1

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2015 ASSEMBLY BILL 632

Assembly Bill 632 creates a Distance Learning Authorization (DLA) Board that is attached to the Higher Educational Aids Board and consists of the following members:

- The president of the University of Wisconsin System or his or her designee.
- The president of the Technical College System Board or his or her designee.
- The president of the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities or his or her designee.
- The executive secretary of the Educational Approval Board (EAB).
- One person representing Wisconsin tribal colleges.

The DLA Board was created in order to enter into an interstate reciprocity agreement related to state authorization and oversight of distance education programs. Before entering into an agreement, the board must submit a copy of the agreement to the Joint Committee on Finance for its review.

If the DLA Board enters an agreement, the Board must conduct a number of authorization, oversight and administrative duties related to the provision of distance education programs in Wisconsin. A distance education program is defined as “the offering of courses for credit to students in another jurisdiction that will lead to a degree or certificate from the institution offering the course.”

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1

Assembly Amendment 1 alters the membership of the DLA Board by substituting the Technical College Board Director appointed under s. 38.04 (2), Stats., for the President of the Technical College System Board.

Assembly Amendment 1 also alters the definition of “distance education program” to include noncredit courses and field experiences that are offered as part of a program, as well as courses for credit.

BILL HISTORY

Assembly Amendment 1 was offered by Representative Ballweg on January 13, 2016. On January 21, 2016, the Assembly Committee on Colleges and Universities voted to adopt Assembly Amendment 1 on a vote of Ayes, 13; Noes, 0, and to recommend passage of the bill, as amended, on a votes of Ayes, 11; Noes, 2.

MM:ksm