



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

**2015 Senate Bill 254**

**Senate  
Amendment 1**

*Memo published: September 30, 2015    Contact: Katie Bender-Olson, Senior Staff Attorney (266-2988)*

2015 Senate Bill 254 relates to the Achievement Gap Reduction (AGR) program.

### **CURRENT LAW**

The AGR program was created under 2015 Wisconsin Act 53. School boards that previously participated in the Student Achievement Guarantee in Education (SAGE) program may enter into AGR contracts with the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) under which they agree to implement one or more of three statutorily defined strategies in each participating school to improve achievement in grades kindergarten through three. DPI must arrange for the AGR program to be annually evaluated beginning in the 2017-18 school year.

### **2015 SENATE BILL 254**

Senate Bill 254 clarifies that AGR contracts must require school boards to implement one or more of the three statutorily defined strategies in **each** class in **each** participating grade at each participating school. The bill also delays annual evaluations of the AGR program by one year. Under the bill, DPI must arrange for annual evaluations of the AGR program beginning in the 2018-19 school year.

### **SENATE AMENDMENT 1**

Senate Amendment 1 corrects an outdated citation to federal law. Currently, the AGR statute defines “low income” according to the federal measure under 20 U.S.C. s. 2723, which is no longer accurate. Under the amendment, the defined term is “low income pupil” which references the federal measure under 42 U.S.C. s. 1758 (b) (1).

**BILL HISTORY**

Senate Amendment 1 was offered by Senator Olsen on September 21, 2015. On September 29, 2015, the Senate Committee on Education recommended adoption of Senate Amendment 1 on a vote of Ayes, 7; Noes, 0, and passage of the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 7; Noes, 0.

KBO:mcm;ksm