January 27, 2016 – Introduced by Senators DARLING, HARSDFORF, MARKLEIN and OLSN, cosponsored by Representatives KITCHENS, VANDERMEE, TAUCHEB, SCHRAA, STEINEKE, BORN, E. BROOKS, R. BROOKS, CZAJA, HEATON, KRUG, KUL, MURSAU, NOVAK, NYGREN, A. OTT, PETRYK, QUINN, RODRIGUEZ, ROHRKASTE, SPIROS and TRANEL. Referred to Committee on Education.

AN ACT to create 20.255 (1) (ew) and 115.28 (21) of the statutes; relating to:

career and workforce education pilot program and making appropriations.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill creates a career and workforce education pilot program and authorizes the Department of Public Instruction to reimburse the board of control of a Cooperative Educational Service Agency for eligible expenses associated with hiring a career and workforce education coordinator and establishing a career and workforce education pilot program. The bill requires DPI to work in cooperation with the Department of Workforce Development to select the CESA that will receive funding under the pilot program. Under the bill, DPI may reimburse the selected CESA for up to $125,000 of eligible expenses in each of the 2016–17 and 2017–18 school years.

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:

SECTION 1. 20.005 (3) (schedule) of the statutes: at the appropriate place, insert the following amounts for the purposes indicated:
20.255  Public Instruction, Department of

(1) Educational Leadership

(ew) Career and workforce education

pilot program grant               GPR   A       -0-    -0-

SECTION 2. 20.255 (1) (ew) of the statutes is created to read:

20.255 (1) (ew) Career and workforce education pilot program grant. The amounts in the schedule for a career and workforce education pilot program grant under s. 115.28 (21) and to make the transfer described under s. 115.28 (21) (b) 2.

SECTION 3. 115.28 (21) of the statutes is created to read:

115.28 (21) Career and workforce education pilot program. (a) Solicit applications from boards of control of cooperative educational service agencies and, in cooperation with the department of workforce development, select from among the applicants one board of control to receive funding under this subsection for the purpose of implementing a career and workforce education pilot program.

(b) 1. Upon selection of the board of control under par. (a), submit that board of control’s application, together with a request to supplement the appropriation under s. 20.255 (1) (ew) with the funds that are held in the appropriation under s. 20.865 (4) (a) for the purpose described under par. (a), to the joint committee on finance for consideration by the committee at its next quarterly meeting under s. 13.10. Upon approval of the state superintendent’s request under this subdivision, the joint committee on finance shall release the funds.

2. Upon receipt of a report required under par. (c) 5., reimburse the board of control selected under par. (a) for eligible expenses incurred pursuant to par. (c) and
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transfer to the appropriation account under s. 20.865 (4) (a) the balance, if any, of unexpended and unencumbered funds.

(c) Subject to par. (b), from the appropriation under s. 20.255 (1) (ew), reimburse the board of control selected under par. (a) for eligible expenses not to exceed $125,000 in the 2016–17 school year and not to exceed $125,000 in the 2017–18 school year. Eligible expenses include the salary paid to a career and workforce education coordinator hired to implement the pilot program and programming and travel expenses related to career and workforce education. The career and workforce education coordinator shall be responsible for all of the following:

1. Workforce education.
2. Business development outreach.
3. Coordination between businesses and school boards of school districts within the cooperative educational service agency.
4. Apprenticeship and job training opportunity advancement.
5. At the end of each of the 2016–17 and 2017–18 school years, the preparation and electronic submittal to the state superintendent of a report evaluating the implementation and efficacy of the pilot program under this subsection. The individual shall include in the report a financial statement showing eligible expenses incurred to implement the pilot program.

SECTION 4. Fiscal changes.

(1) In the schedule under section 20.005 (3) of the statutes for the appropriation to the joint committee on finance under section 20.865 (4) (a) of the statutes, as affected by the acts of 2015, the dollar amount for fiscal year 2016–17 is increased
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by $125,000 for the purpose of funding a career and workforce education pilot program under section 115.28 (21) of the statutes.

(END)