AN ACT to create 121.91 (4) (s) of the statutes; relating to: adjusting a school district’s revenue limit for certain school safety expenditures.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill permits a school district to increase its revenue limit by an amount equal to the greater of $40,000 or $100 times the number of pupils enrolled in the district for the purpose of making certain school safety expenditures. As a prerequisite to increasing its revenue limit for this purpose, the school board must approve and submit to the state superintendent of public instruction a school safety expenditure plan developed jointly by the school board and a local law enforcement agency. The school safety expenditure plan must be consistent with the school district’s school safety plan. The revenue limit adjustment first applies to the calculation of the school district revenue limit in the 2016–17 school year.

Current law generally limits the amount of revenue per pupil that a school district may receive from general school aids and property taxes in a school year to the amount of revenue allowed per pupil in the previous school year.

For further information see the state and local 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. 121.91 (4) (s) of the statutes is created to read:
121.91 (4) (s) 1. In this paragraph, “local law enforcement agency” means a governmental unit of one or more persons employed full time by a city, town, village, or county in this state for the purpose of preventing and detecting crime and enforcing state laws or local ordinances, employees of which unit are authorized to make arrests for crimes while acting within the scope of their authority.

2. The limit otherwise applicable to a school district under sub. (2m) in any school year is increased by an amount equal to $100 times the number of pupils enrolled in the school district or $40,000, whichever is greater, for the purpose of covering compensation costs associated with providing security officers in the school district, purchasing safety equipment, or improving school safety. The increase in the limit under this subdivision applies only if the school board and a local law enforcement agency have jointly developed a school safety expenditure plan, consistent with the school safety plan under s. 118.07 (4), that covers each school in the school district and that describes the manner in which the additional revenue shall be used, and the school board approves and submits the school safety expenditure plan to the state superintendent for the purpose of calculating the school district’s revenue limit.

3. Any additional revenue received by a school district as a result of subd. 2. shall not be included in the base for determining the school district’s limit under sub. (2m) for the following school year.

SECTION 2. Initial applicability.

(1) School safety measures; revenue limit adjustment. This act first applies to the calculation of a school district’s revenue limit for the 2016–17 school year.