



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

**2017 Assembly Bill 835**

**Assembly Amendment 3**

*Memo published:* February 14, 2018

*Contact:* Rachel E. Snyder, Staff Attorney

### **2017 ASSEMBLY BILL 835**

Current law provides a method for calculating a school district's per pupil revenue limit each school year and sets a revenue ceiling of \$9,100 per pupil. If in a given school year a school district's revenue limit, calculated according to the statutory formula, is less than the revenue ceiling, then the school district is permitted to increase its per pupil revenue up to the revenue ceiling that school year without passing a referendum.

The bill increases the revenue ceiling to \$9,400 beginning in the 2018-19 school year, and increases the revenue ceiling by \$100 each school year thereafter until it reaches \$9,800 in the 2022-23 school year. The bill also limits a school district's revenue ceiling under the following circumstances:

- If a school district attempted and failed to pass a referendum to exceed its revenue limit in the 2015-16, 2016-17, or 2017-18 school year, then the school district's revenue ceiling is set at \$9,100 for the three school years following the school year during which the referendum was held.
- If a school district attempts and fails to pass a referendum to exceed its revenue limit in the 2018-19 school year or any school year thereafter, then, for the three school years following the school year during which the referendum was held, the school district's revenue ceiling will be set at the statutory amount for the school year during which the referendum was held.

### **ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 3**

The amendment creates the following exceptions to the limits imposed by the bill to a school district's revenue ceiling based on failed referenda:

- If a school district that is subject to a revenue ceiling limitation based on a failed referendum in the 2015-16, 2016-17, or 2017-18 school year, subsequently passes a referendum to exceed its revenue limit in the 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, or 2018-19 school year, then the revenue ceiling limitation does not apply to that school district.
- If a school district that is subject to a revenue ceiling limitation based on a failed referendum in any school year subsequently passes a referendum to exceed its revenue limit, then, beginning in the school year immediately following the school year during which the referendum was held, the school district's revenue ceiling is the statutory amount for that school year.
- A school district that is subject to a revenue ceiling limitation in the 2018-19, 2019-20, or 2020-21 school year may seek approval from the electorate, via referendum, to set its revenue ceiling at the statutory amount for one or more of those school years. Such a referendum must be scheduled at the regularly scheduled spring primary or election or partisan primary or general election.
- The revenue ceiling limitation does not apply to a school district that failed to pass a referendum in the 2017-18 school year if, at the same election, the electorate rejected both a referendum to exceed the revenue limit and a referendum to issue general obligation bonds for the purpose of constructing a new school building.

### **BILL HISTORY**

Assembly Bill 835 was offered by Representative Nygren on January 12, 2018. On February 1, 2018, the Assembly Committee on Education recommended the bill for passage on a vote of Ayes, 14; Noes, 1. On February 8, 2018, the Joint Committee on Finance introduced and recommended adoption of Assembly Amendment 3 on votes of Ayes, 16; Noes, 0, and recommended passage of the bill, as amended, on votes of Ayes, 16; Noes, 0.

RES:ksm