May 4, 2017 – Introduced by Senators STROEBEL and L. TAYLOR, cosponsored by Representatives THIESFELDT, GANNON, TUSLER, R. BROOKS and ALLEN. Referred to Committee on Education.

AN ACT to amend 118.30 (1m) (d), 118.30 (1r) (d), 118.30 (1s) (e) and 118.30 (1t) (e); and to create 118.303 of the statutes; relating to: providing information about mandatory pupil examinations.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires, beginning in the 2017-18 school year, each school board, operator of an independent charter school, and managing entity of an opportunity school to annually provide the parent or guardian of each pupil enrolled in the school district, independent charter school, or opportunity school with a copy of or instructions on how to access a summary of the pupil examinations that the school board, operator, or managing entity must administer under state and federal law and any other pupil examinations used to assess pupil, school, or school district performance. The bill requires the governing body of a private school participating in a parental choice program to provide the same information but only to parents and guardians of pupils attending the private school under a parental choice program. Finally, the bill specifies certain information that must be included in the summary and requires that the summary be written in commonly understood language.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 118.30 (1m) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:
118.30 (1m) (d) If the school board maintains an Internet site for the school
district, annually publish information on that Internet site about the examinations
administered under this subsection to pupils in the school district, as required under
s. 118.303 (4).

SECTION 2. 118.30 (1r) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

118.30 (1r) (d) If the operator of the charter school maintains an Internet site
for the school, annually publish information on that Internet site about the
examinations administered under this subsection to pupils in the school, as required
under s. 118.303 (4).

SECTION 3. 118.30 (1s) (e) of the statutes is amended to read:

118.30 (1s) (e) If the governing body of the private school maintains an Internet
site for the school, annually publish information on that Internet site about the
examinations administered under this subsection to pupils in the school, as required
under s. 118.303 (4).

SECTION 4. 118.30 (1t) (e) of the statutes is amended to read:

118.30 (1t) (e) If the governing body of the private school maintains an Internet
site for the school, annually publish information on that Internet site about the
examinations administered under this subsection to pupils in the school, as required
under s. 118.303 (4).

SECTION 5. 118.303 of the statutes is created to read:

118.303 Notice of pupil assessments. (1) In this section:

(a) “Managing entity” means an individual or group, person operating a charter
school, or governing body of a nonsectarian private school participating in a program
under s. 118.60 or 119.23 that, pursuant to s. 115.999 (3), 119.33 (2) (c), or 119.9002
(3), is responsible for the operation and general management of an opportunity school.

(b) “Opportunity school” means a school transferred to an opportunity schools and partnership program under s. 119.33 or subch. IX of ch. 115 or subch. II of ch. 119.

(2) (a) Annually, before a school board administers an examination required to be included in the summary under sub. (3) (a), the school board shall provide to the parent or guardian of each pupil enrolled in the school district a copy of the summary the school board prepared under sub. (3) for that school year or instructions on how to access or obtain the summary the school board prepared under sub. (3) for that school year.

(b) Annually, before the operator of a charter school under s. 118.40 (2r) or (2x) administers an examination required to be included in the summary under sub. (3) (a), the operator shall provide to the parent or guardian of each pupil enrolled in the charter school a copy of the summary the operator prepared under sub. (3) for that school year or instructions on how to access or obtain the summary the operator prepared under sub. (3) for that school year.

(c) Annually, before a governing body of a private school participating in a parental choice program under s. 118.60 or 119.23 administers an examination required to be included in the summary under sub. (3) (a), the governing body shall provide to the parent or guardian of each pupil attending the private school under the parental choice program a copy of the summary the governing body prepared under sub. (3) for that school year or instructions on how to access or obtain the summary the governing body prepared under sub. (3) for that school year.
(d) Annually, before a managing entity administers an examination required
to be included in the summary under sub. (3) (a), the managing entity shall provide
to the parent or guardian of each pupil enrolled in the opportunity school a copy of
the summary the managing entity prepared under sub. (3) for that school year or
instructions on how to access or obtain the summary the managing entity prepared
under sub. (3) for that school year.

(3) Annually, using the best available information, each school board, operator
of a charter school under s. 118.40 (2r), governing body of a private school
participating in a parental choice program under s. 118.60 or 119.23, and a managing
entity shall prepare a summary written in commonly understood language that
includes all of the following:

(a) 1. Each examination required under state or federal law that will be
administered to pupils enrolled in a public school in the school district, the charter
school, the private school, or the opportunity school except an examination that is
required for high school graduation.

2. Each examination required by the school board, operator, governing body, or
managing entity to assess pupil, school, or school district performance that will be
administered to pupils enrolled in a public school in the school district, the charter
school, the private school, or the opportunity school except an examination that
counts toward a grade or score for a class or that is required for high school
graduation.

(b) The grade level to which each examination identified under par. (a) will be
administered.

(c) The expected date on which each examination identified under par. (a) will
be administered.
(d) The duration of each examination identified under par. (a).

(e) The process the school board, operator, governing body, or managing entity uses to determine an appropriate alternative in-school activity for pupils who have been excused from taking an examination identified under par. (a).

(f) The school board's, charter school's, private school's, or opportunity school's policies and procedures regarding a parent or guardian opting a pupil out of any examination identified under par. (a).

(g) The purpose of administering each examination identified under par. (a) and a description of how the school board, operator of the charter school, governing body of the private school, or managing entity will use data derived from each identified examination.

(4) If a school board, operator of a charter school under s. 118.40 (2r) or (2x), governing body of a private school participating in a parental choice program under s. 118.60 or 119.23, or managing entity maintains an Internet site, the school board, operator, governing body, or managing entity shall post the summary under sub. (3) on that site.

SECTION 6. Initial applicability.

(1) NOTICE OF PUPIL ASSESSMENTS. The treatment of sections 118.30 (1m) (d), (1r) (d), (1s) (e), and (1t) (e) and 118.303 of the statutes first applies to examinations administered during the 2017-18 school year.