AN ACT to amend 119.04 (1); and to create 115.28 (64) and 120.12 (14m) of the statutes; relating to: comprehensive firearm education for high school pupils.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires the state superintendent of public instruction to jointly develop a curriculum for a comprehensive firearm education course to be offered as an elective to high school pupils. The bill requires the state superintendent to jointly develop the curriculum with the Department of Natural Resources, a law enforcement agency, or an organization that specializes in firearms safety or that certifies firearms instructors.

The curriculum must be prepared before the first school year that begins after the bill is passed. Under current law, a school year begins on July 1 and ends on June 30. The bill does not require a school district to offer the course, but if a school district does offer such a course, the course must be taught or supervised by an individual who demonstrates proof of training in firearms safety. The bill prohibits the presence or use of live ammunition in such a course.

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

SECTION 1. 115.28 (64) of the statutes is created to read:

115.28 (64) COMPREHENSIVE FIREARM EDUCATION. (a) In consultation with the department of natural resources, a law enforcement agency, or a national or state
organization that specializes in firearms safety or that certifies firearms instructors, jointly develop a curriculum for a comprehensive firearm education course to be offered as an elective to pupils enrolled in the high school grades beginning in the school year that begins after the effective date of this paragraph .... [LRB inserts date]. The state superintendent shall ensure that the jointly developed curriculum incorporates the history, science, and mathematics of firearms, together with all of the following:

1. The different types and mechanics of firearms.
2. Principles of firearms safety, including:
   a. The location of safety devices on different types of firearms.
   b. How to engage a safety device on a firearm and know whether a safety device on a firearm is engaged.
   c. How to safely carry a firearm.
   d. How to safely transport a firearm.

(b) Require a school district that offers a course developed under par. (a) to retain an adult who satisfies the proof of training requirement under s. 175.60 (7) (e) to provide or supervise the instruction.

SECTION 2. 119.04 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

119.04 (1) Subchapters IV, V and VII of ch. 115, ch. 121 and ss. 66.0235 (3) (c), 66.0603 (1m) to (3), 115.01 (1) and (2), 115.28, 115.31, 115.33, 115.34, 115.343, 115.345, 115.363, 115.365 (3), 115.38 (2), 115.415, 115.445, 118.001 to 118.04, 118.045, 118.06, 118.07, 118.075, 118.076, 118.10, 118.12, 118.125 to 118.14, 118.145 (4), 118.15, 118.153, 118.16, 118.162, 118.163, 118.164, 118.18, 118.19, 118.20, 118.223, 118.225, 118.24 (1), (2) (c) to (f), (6), (8), and (10), 118.245, 118.255, 118.258, 118.291, 118.292, 118.293, 118.30 to 118.43, 118.46, 118.50, 118.51, 118.52, 118.53,
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118.55, 118.56, 120.12 (2m), (4m), (5), (14m), and (15) to (27), 120.125, 120.13 (1), (2)
(b) to (g), (3), (14), (17) to (19), (26), (34), (35), (37), (37m), and (38), 120.137, 120.14,
120.20, 120.21 (3), and 120.25 are applicable to a 1st class city school district and
board but not, unless explicitly provided in this chapter or in the terms of a contract,
to the commissioner or to any school transferred to an opportunity schools and
partnership program.

SECTION 3. 120.12 (14m) of the statutes is created to read:

120.12 (14m) COMPREHENSIVE FIREARM EDUCATION. If the school district offers
a course in comprehensive firearm education developed under s. 115.28 (64), prohibit
the presence or use of live ammunition in the course.

(END)