2017 SENATE BILL 427

October 9, 2017 - Introduced by Senators LASEE and HANSEN, cosponsored by Representatives JACQUE, QUINN, KREMER, KUGLITSCH, GENRICH, GOYKE and TITTL. Referred to Committee on Education.

AN ACT to amend 119.04 (1); and to create 120.12 (6m) of the statutes; relating to: notification of certain construction activities in school buildings.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires the school board of a school district to notify certain interested parties, including members of the community, prior to commencing a construction project. The notice requirement applies to a construction project with an estimated cost of $10,000 or greater that will occur in a school building in which pupils, teachers, and administrators will be present. With certain exceptions, the school board must provide notice at least two months prior to the start date. Notice may be provided by mail, by publication in a newspaper likely to give notice to interested persons, or at a public hearing. Notice to parents and guardians of pupils and others who are assigned to the school building may be provided by e-mail or through a letter sent home with the interested party.

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

SECTION 1. 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,
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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, 118.55, 118.56, 120.12 (2m), (4m), (5), (6m), 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 2. 120.12 (6m) of the statutes is created to read:

120.12 (6m) NOTIFICATION OF CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES. (a) Establish procedures, consistent with the requirements under par. (b), for notifying parents and guardians of pupils enrolled in a school of the school district, teachers, administrators, and other employees of the school district who are assigned to the school, and members of the community about a construction project in a school building, other than a construction project undertaken in response to an emergency in the school building involving the health, safety, or welfare of the public, that satisfies the following conditions before commencing the construction project:

1. The construction project will occur during the school term or during the summer session while pupils are enrolled in classes in the school building.

2. The estimated cost of the construction project exceeds $10,000.

(b) Ensure that for each construction project described under par. (a), the notice complies with the following:
1. a. Except as provided in subd. 1. b., the notice is provided at least 2 months prior to the date on which the construction project is scheduled to begin.

   b. For an emergency in a school building involving the health, safety, or welfare of the public, the notice is provided as far in advance of the construction project as possible.

2. The notice includes information about the school board’s obligation under sub. (5) to keep the school buildings and grounds in good repair, suitably equipped, and in safe and sanitary condition at all times. The school board shall include under this subdivision information about the measures the school board will take to mitigate any health risks to individuals present in the school building during the construction project.

3. The notice is posted on the school district’s Internet site, mailed directly to the interested parties described under par. (a), provided at a public hearing, or published as a class 1 notice under ch. 985. Notice to the parents or guardians of pupils enrolled in the school and to those individuals who are assigned to the school building may be provided by electronic mail or through a note sent home with the pupil or individual.

(END)