2019 Assembly Bill 51

Current law provides for a minority teacher loan program, under which the Higher Educational Aids Board (HEAB) may award loans to eligible minority Wisconsin residents who are enrolled in a Wisconsin institution of higher education in a program of study leading to a teacher’s license in a discipline identified as a teacher shortage area. Current law also requires HEAB to forgive 25 percent of the loan for each school year that the recipient is employed by a public or private school located in the City of Milwaukee as a full-time teacher in a high-demand area related to the recipient’s college discipline and receives a rating of proficient or distinguished under the educator effectiveness system.

Assembly Bill 51 expands the definition of minority student and changes the location in which a loan recipient must be employed in order to qualify for loan forgiveness. Specifically, the bill provides that a loan recipient may be eligible for forgiveness for each school year that he or she is employed by a public or private school located in a Wisconsin school district in which the enrolled pupil membership is comprised of at least 40 percent minority students, rather than located only in the City of Milwaukee.

Assembly Amendment 1

Assembly Amendment 1 provides that a loan recipient employed by a tribal school located in a qualified school district, as described above, may also be eligible for loan forgiveness.
BILL HISTORY

Representatives Loudenbeck and Fields offered Assembly Amendment 1 on March 4, 2019. On May 9, 2019, the Assembly Committee on Colleges and Universities recommended adoption of the amendment on a vote of Ayes, 13; Noes, 0; and passage of Assembly Bill 51, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 13; Noes, 0.

RES:jal