March 22, 2019 - Introduced by Joint Legislative Council. Referred to Committee on Education.

AN ACT to amend 121.02 (1) (L) 4.; and to create 121.02 (1) (L) 4m. of the statutes; relating to: required instruction in American Indian studies in the elementary and high school grades.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau
This bill is explained in the NOTES provided by the Joint Legislative Council in the bill.
For further information see the local fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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

Joint Legislative Council Prefatory Note: This bill was prepared for the Joint Legislative Council’s Special Committee on State-Tribal Relations.

Current law provides a list of standards by which school boards must abide, including standards relating to curriculum and instruction. The list of standards includes a requirement that each school board provide, as part of its social studies curriculum, instruction in the history, culture, and tribal sovereignty of the federally recognized American Indian tribes and bands located in Wisconsin at least twice in the elementary grades and at least once in the high school grades.

Under the bill, beginning on September 1, 2020, each school board must, as part of its social studies curriculum, provide instruction in the culture, tribal sovereignty, and contemporary and historical significant events of the federally recognized American
Indian tribes and bands located in Wisconsin at least four times in the elementary grades. The bill specifically requires that the instruction be provided at least once in grades kindergarten to 2, at least once in grades 3 to 5, and at least twice in grades 6 to 8. The bill also requires that such instruction be provided as part of the high school curriculum at least once in each of the high school grades, including at least once as part of the high school social studies curriculum.

**SECTION 1.** 121.02 (1) (L) 4. of the statutes is amended to read:

121.02 (1) (L) 4. Beginning September 1, 1991 2020, as part of the social studies curriculum, include instruction in the history, culture and, tribal sovereignty, and contemporary and historical significant events of the federally recognized American Indian tribes and bands located in this state at least twice once in the elementary grades kindergarten to 2, once in grades 3 to 5, and at least once twice in the high school grades 6 to 8.

**SECTION 2.** 121.02 (1) (L) 4m. of the statutes is created to read:

121.02 (1) (L) 4m. Beginning September 1, 2020, as part of the high school curriculum, include instruction in the culture, tribal sovereignty, and contemporary and historical significant events of the federally recognized American Indian tribes and bands located in this state at least once in each of the high school grades. In at least one high school grade, the school board shall include the instruction required under this subdivision in the social studies curriculum.

**SECTION 3. Effective date.**

(1) This act takes effect on July 1, 2020.