September 16, 2019 – Introduced by Senators Olsen, Cowles, Jacque, Petrowski, L. Taylor and Wirch, cosponsored by Representatives Kitchens, Bowen, Duchow, Kulp, L. Myers, Novak, Snyder, Spiros, Tusler and Skowronski. Referred to Committee on Education.

AN ACT to amend 121.004 (7) (c) 1. a., 121.004 (7) (c) 2. and 121.004 (7) (cm) of the statutes; relating to: counting pupils enrolled in four-year-old kindergarten.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau
This bill changes how a pupil enrolled in a four-year-old kindergarten is counted by a school district for purposes of state aid and revenue limits. Under current law, a pupil enrolled in a four-year-old kindergarten program is counted as 0.5 pupil unless the program provides at least 87.5 additional hours of outreach activities, in which case the pupil is counted as 0.6 pupil. Under the bill, if the four-year-old kindergarten program requires full-day attendance by pupils for five days a week, a pupil enrolled in the program is counted as one pupil.

For further information see the state and 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:

SECTION 1. 121.004 (7) (c) 1. a. of the statutes is amended to read:

121.004 (7) (c) 1. a. A pupil enrolled in a 5-year-old kindergarten program that requires full-day attendance by the pupil for 5 days a week, but not on any day of
the week that pupils enrolled in other grades in the school do not attend school, for
an entire school term shall be counted as one pupil.

SECTION 2. 121.004 (7) (c) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

121.004 (7) (c) 2. In subd. 1. a. and b., “full-day” means the length of the school
day for pupils in the first grade of the school district operating the 4-year-old or
5-year-old-kindergarten program.

SECTION 3. 121.004 (7) (cm) of the statutes is amended to read:

121.004 (7) (cm) A pupil enrolled in a 4-year-old kindergarten program,
including a 4-year-old kindergarten program being phased in under s. 118.14 (3) (b),
that provides the required number of hours of direct pupil instruction under s. 121.02
(1) (f) but requires less than full-day attendance by the pupil for 5 days a week shall
be counted as 0.6 pupil if the program annually provides at least 87.5 additional
hours of outreach activities. In this paragraph, “full-day” has the meaning given in
par. (c) 2.

SECTION 4. Initial applicability.

(1) This act first applies to the distribution of school aid in, and the calculation
of revenue limits for, the 2020–21 school year.