AN ACT to create 36.11 (59) and 38.12 (15) of the statutes; relating to: nursing degree program enrollment at University of Wisconsin System schools and technical colleges.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System and technical college district boards to collect data identifying, respectively, the number of qualified applicants denied enrollment in a nursing degree program of a UW institution or technical college because of program capacity constraints, and to annually report to the legislature 1) this number, and 2) the admissions criteria used to determine applicants’ qualifications. The bill also requires the Board of Regents and technical college district boards to submit to the legislature a plan to increase enrollment capacity in UW System and technical college nursing degree programs in the 10-year period following the plan’s submission.

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. 36.11 (59) of the statutes is created to read:
36.11 (59) Report on nursing program capacity and applicant qualifications.

(a) The board shall collect data identifying, for each institution with a nursing degree program, the number of qualified applicants denied enrollment in any nursing degree program of the institution because of program capacity constraints.

(b) By July 1 of each year, the board shall submit to the chief clerk of each house of the legislature, for distribution to the legislature under s. 13.172 (2), a report identifying all of the following for the most recent academic year:

1. The number of qualified applicants denied enrollment as described in par. (a) at each applicable institution.

2. The admissions criteria used by each applicable institution to determine applicants’ qualifications for enrollment in the institution’s nursing degree programs.

Section 2. 38.12 (15) of the statutes is created to read:

38.12 (15) Report on nursing program capacity and applicant qualifications.

(a) If the district board offers any nursing degree program, the district board shall collect data identifying the number of qualified applicants denied enrollment in any nursing degree program of a technical college in the district because of program capacity constraints.

(b) By July 1 of each year, the district board shall submit to the technical college system board and to the chief clerk of each house of the legislature, for distribution to the legislature under s. 13.172 (2), a report identifying all of the following for the most recent school year:

1. The number of qualified applicants denied enrollment as described in par. (a).
2. The admissions criteria used by the district board to determine applicants' qualifications for enrollment in the technical college's nursing degree programs.


(1) Plan to increase enrollment capacity for University of Wisconsin System nursing programs.

(a) In this subsection:

1. “Board” means the Board of Regents of the system.

2. “System” means the University of Wisconsin System.

(b) No later than December 1, 2022, the board shall submit to the legislature in the manner provided in s. 13.172 (2) a plan to increase enrollment capacity in the system's nursing degree programs in the 10-year period following submission of the plan.

(2) Plan to increase enrollment capacity for technical college nursing programs.

(a) In this subsection:

1. “District” has the meaning given in s. 38.01 (5).

2. “District board” has the meaning given in s. 38.01 (6).

(b) No later than December 1, 2022, each district board offering a nursing degree program shall submit to the technical college system board and to the legislature, in the manner provided in s. 13.172 (2), a plan to increase enrollment capacity in the nursing degree programs of the technical colleges in the district in the 10-year period following submission of the plan.

SECTION 4. Initial applicability.
1 (1) **Nursing Program Capacity Report.** The treatment of ss. 36.11 (59) (b) and
2 38.12 (15) (b) first applies to reports required by July 1, 2022.

(END)