2021 SENATE BILL 177

March 3, 2021 - Introduced by Senators JACQUE and FELZKOWSKI, cosponsored by Representatives THIESFELDT, HORLACHER, ANDRACA, ARMSTRONG, HINTZ, KUGLITSCH, MURPHY, ROZAR, TUSLER, VRUWINK and BRANDTJEN. Referred to Committee on Education.

AN ACT to repeal 121.15 (1) (a) 1. and 121.15 (1) (a) 2. to 5.; to renumber 121.15

(1) (a) 6.; to renumber and amend 121.15 (1) (a); and to create 121.15 (1) (a)

2. to 6. of the statutes; relating to: the timing of equalization aid payments to school districts.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Department of Public Instruction pays equalization aid to school districts for each school year in the following four installments: 15 percent in September, 25 percent in December, 25 percent in March, and 35 percent in June. This bill increases the percentage of equalization aid distributed in September by 2 points each school year, and decreases the percentage of equalization aid distributed in June by 2 points each school year, until the 2025-26 school year, at which time the amount of equalization aid distributed in both September and June will be 25 percent. The result is that equalization aid will be paid to school districts in four equal installments beginning in the 2025-26 school year.

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. 121.15 (1) (a) of the statutes is renumbered 121.15 (1) (a) 1. and amended to read:

121.15 (1) (a) 1. Each in the 2020-21 school year, each school district shall receive 15 percent of its total aid entitlement in September, 25 percent of its total aid entitlement in December, 25 percent of its total aid entitlement in March, and 35 percent of its total aid entitlement in June.

SECTION 2. 121.15 (1) (a) 1. of the statutes, as affected by 2021 Wisconsin Act .... (this act), is repealed.

SECTION 3. 121.15 (1) (a) 2. to 6. of the statutes are created to read:

121.15 (1) (a) 2. In the 2021-22 school year, each school district shall receive 17 percent of its total aid entitlement in September, 25 percent of its total aid entitlement in December, 25 percent of its total aid entitlement in March, and 33 percent of its total aid entitlement in June.

3. In the 2022-23 school year, each school district shall receive 19 percent of its total aid entitlement in September, 25 percent of its total aid entitlement in December, 25 percent of its total aid entitlement in March, and 31 percent of its total aid entitlement in June.

4. In the 2023-24 school year, each school district shall receive 21 percent of its total aid entitlement in September, 25 percent of its total aid entitlement in December, 25 percent of its total aid entitlement in March, and 29 percent of its total aid entitlement in June.

5. In the 2024-25 school year, each school district shall receive 23 percent of its total aid entitlement in September, 25 percent of its total aid entitlement in December, 25 percent of its total aid entitlement in March, and 27 percent of its total aid entitlement in June.
6. In the 2025–26 school year and each school year thereafter, each school district shall receive 25 percent of its total aid entitlement in September, 25 percent of its total aid entitlement in December, 25 percent of its total aid entitlement in March, and 25 percent of its total aid entitlement in June.

SECTION 4. 121.15 (1) (a) 2. to 5. of the statutes, as created by 2021 Wisconsin Act .... (this act), are repealed.

SECTION 5. 121.15 (1) (a) 6. of the statutes, as created by 2021 Wisconsin Act .... (this act), is renumbered 121.15 (1) (a).

SECTION 6. Effective dates. This act takes effect on the day after publication, except as follows:

(1) The renumbering of s. 121.15 (1) (a) 6. and the repeal of s. 121.15 (1) (a) 1. to 5. take effect on July 1, 2026.

(END)