March 9, 2021 - Introduced by Senators DARLING, KOOYENGA, BERNIER, NASS and PFAFF, cosponsored by Representatives KNODL, ANDRACA, ARMSTRONG, BRANDTJEN, HINTZ, L. MYERS, NEYLON, OLDENBURG, POPE, ROZAR, SKOWRONSKI, TITTL, VINING and ALLEN. Referred to Committee on Education.

AN ACT to repeal 118.045 and 118.38 (1) (a) 8.; and to amend 119.04 (1) of the statutes; relating to: the commencement of fall classes in public schools.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, public schools are prohibited from starting fall classes until September 1. However, current law allows the Department of Public Instruction to grant a school board request for an exception to this prohibition if DPI determines there are extraordinary reasons for granting the request.

Beginning with the 2022–23 school term, this bill eliminates the prohibition against public schools starting fall classes before September 1.

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

SECTION 1. 118.045 of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 2. 118.38 (1) (a) 8. of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 3. 119.04 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

119.04 (1) Subchapters IV, V and VII of ch. 115, ch. 121 and ss. 66.0235 (3) (c), 66.0603 (1m) to (3), 115.01 (1) and (2), 115.28, 115.31, 115.33, 115.34, 115.343,
115.345, 115.363, 115.364, 115.365 (3), 115.366, 115.367, 115.38 (2), 115.415, 115.445, 118.001 to 118.04, 118.045, 118.06, 118.07, 118.075, 118.076, 118.10, 118.12, 118.125 to 118.14, 118.145 (4), 118.15, 118.153, 118.16, 118.162, 118.163, 118.164, 118.18, 118.19, 118.196, 118.20, 118.223, 118.225, 118.24 (1), (2) (c) to (f), (6), (8), and (10), 118.245, 118.25, 118.255, 118.258, 118.291, 118.292, 118.293, 118.30 to 118.43, 118.46, 118.50, 118.51, 118.52, 118.53, 118.55, 118.56, 120.12 (2m), (4m), (5), and (15) to (27), 120.125, 120.13 (1), (2) (b) to (g), (3), (14), (17) to (19), (26), (34), (35), (37), (37m), and (38), 120.137, 120.14, 120.20, 120.21 (3), and 120.25 are applicable to a 1st class city school district and board but not, unless explicitly provided in this chapter or in the terms of a contract, to the commissioner or to any school transferred to an opportunity schools and partnership program.

**SECTION 4. Initial applicability.**

(1) This act first applies to the commencement of the 2022–23 school term.