Wisconsin Legislative Council AMENDMENT MEMO



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2025 Assembly Bill 74 Amendment 1 to Assembly Amendment 1

2025 ASSEMBLY BILL 74

2025 Assembly Bill 74 requires a school board, governing body of a private school, and operator of a charter school (collectively, "school") that receives a credible report of sexual misconduct by a school staff member to notify the parents or guardians of each pupil alleged to be a victim, target, or recipient of the alleged sexual misconduct by the end of the day on which the report is received.¹

A report is considered received: (1) by a school board or operator of a charter school, when it is received by an individual employed by the school district or operator of the charter school and for purposes of that employment, the individual is required to hold a principal, assistant principal, or district administrator license issued by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI); and (2) by the governing body of a private school, when it is received by an individual employed by the governing body as an assistant principal, principal, or administrator.

The bill also requires school boards to annually provide parents and guardians with information regarding the right to access records regarding school employee discipline under the Public Records Law.

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1

Assembly Amendment 1 makes several changes to the bill. First, the amendment requires a school to notify the parent or guardian of each pupil alleged to be a victim, target, or recipient of any of the following alleged conduct:

- Sexual misconduct by a school staff member.
- That an individual who has been convicted of a serious child sex offense has engaged in an occupation or participated in a volunteer position that requires the individual to work or interact primarily and directly with children in a manner that constitutes a crime.
- That a sex offender has intentionally captured a representation of a minor pupil without the written consent of the pupil's parent or guardian.

Second, the amendment specifies the manner in which a school must provide notice to the pupil's parent or guardian. The school must provide the notice in person or by phone, including voicemail. If the report is received on a school day before the end of regularly scheduled instruction, the school must notify the pupil's parent or guardian by 5 p.m. on that day. If the report is received any other time, the school must provide the notice by noon on the next calendar day.

¹ Sex ual misconduct by a school staff member is prohibited under s. <u>948.098</u>, Stats.

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Third, the amendment modifies the professionals that receive a report of the alleged conduct for the school to be considered to have received the report. Under the amendment, the school is also considered to have received the report when it is received by the school's designated Title IX coordinator, as defined under federal law.

Fourth, the amendment specifies that notification is not required if the report alleges conduct by the pupil's parent or guardian.

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1 TO ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1

Assembly Amendment 1 to Assembly Amendment 1 requires the notification described above if the person who receives the report determines there is reasonable cause to suspect that the alleged conduct occurred, rather than whenever the school receives a report alleging the conduct occurred.

BILL HISTORY

Representative Franklin offered Assembly Amendment 1 on March 10, 2025. On March 11, 2025, the Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety voted to recommend adoption of the amendment on a vote of Ayes, 12; Noes, 3; and voted to recommend passage of the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 13; Noes, 2.

Representative Franklin offered Assembly Amendment 1 to Assembly Amendment 1 on March 13, 2025. Also on March 14, 2025, the Assembly took the following actions on voice votes: (1) adopted Assembly Amendment 1 to Assembly Amendment 1; (2) adopted Assembly Amendment 1, as amended; and (3) passed Assembly Bill 74, as amended.

For a full history of the bill, visit the Legislature's bill history page.

TK:jal