



State of Wisconsin
2015 - 2016 LEGISLATURE

LRB-1232/P2
TKK:kjf:rs

DOA:.....Stritchko, BB0429 - Choice Program Income Eligibility

FOR 2015-2017 BUDGET -- NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

AN ACT ...; **relating to:** the budget.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

EDUCATION

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

Current law permits a pupil to attend a participating private school under the Racine Parental Choice Program or the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program if the pupil resides in the Racine Unified School District or the Milwaukee Public School District, respectively, and the family income of the pupil does not exceed three times the federal poverty level. Current law also permits a pupil who resides in any other school district in the state to attend a participating private school under the statewide parental choice program if the family income of the pupil does not exceed 1.85 times the federal poverty level. Under each parental choice program, the pupil's family income must be verified through DOR. Each parental choice program also permits a pupil to continue participating in the choice program if the pupil's family income increases.

This bill provides that a pupil whose family income was verified for the statewide program need not reverify family income with DOR if the pupil will apply to attend a participating private school in any other school district in the state in a

school year immediately following the school year in which the pupil attended a private school under the statewide program.

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

SECTION 1. 118.60 (2) (a) 1. a. of the statutes is amended to read:

118.60 (2) (a) 1. a. Except as provided in par. (bm), the pupil is a member of a family that has a total family income that does not exceed an amount equal to 3.0 times the poverty level determined in accordance with criteria established by the director of the federal office of management and budget. In this subdivision and sub. (3m), family income includes income of the pupil's parents or legal guardians. The Except as provided in subd. 1. c., the family income of the pupil shall be verified as provided in subd. 1. b. A pupil attending a private school under this section whose family income increases may continue to attend a private school under this section.

SECTION 2. 118.60 (2) (a) 1. c. of the statutes is created to read:

118.60 (2) (a) 1. c. The family income of a pupil does not need to be verified under subd. 1. b. for a pupil who resided in a school district other than an eligible school district or a 1st class city school district in a school year, attended a participating private school in a school district other than an eligible school district or a 1st class city school district under the program under this section in that school year, and applies to attend a participating private school in any other school district in the school year immediately following that school year.

SECTION 3. 119.23 (2) (a) 1. a. of the statutes is amended to read:

119.23 (2) (a) 1. a. The pupil is a member of a family that has a total family income that does not exceed an amount equal to 3.0 times the poverty level determined in accordance with criteria established by the director of the federal

office of management and budget. In this subdivision and sub. (3m), family income includes income of the pupil's parents or legal guardians. The Except as provided in subd. 1. d., the family income of the pupil shall be verified as provided in subd. 1. b. A pupil attending a private school under this section whose family income increases, including a pupil who attended a private school under this section in the 2010-11 school year and whose family income has increased, may continue to attend a private school under this section.

SECTION 4. 119.23 (2) (a) 1. d. of the statutes is created to read:

119.23 (2) (a) 1. d. In this subd. 1. d., "eligible school district" has the meaning given in s. 118.60 (1) (am). The family income of a pupil does not need to be verified under subd. 1. b. for a pupil who resided in a school district other than an eligible school district and other than the school district operating under this chapter in a school year, attended a participating private school under the program under s. 118.60 in a school district other than an eligible school district in that school year, and applies to attend a participating private school in the program under this section in the school year immediately following that school year.

(END)