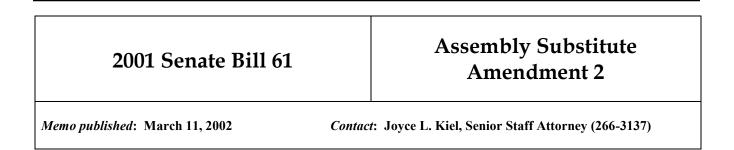


WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO



CURRENT LAW

In general, a school board may not grant a high school diploma to a pupil unless the pupil has earned a prescribed number of credits in certain subjects in the high school grades or has been enrolled in an alternative education program and demonstrated certain levels of proficiency. [s. 118.33 (1) (a) and (d), Stats.] However, current law provides an exception by permitting a school board to award a high school diploma to a person who meets all of the following conditions:

- 1. Is at least 65 years old.
- 2. Attended high school in the school district.
- 3. Left high school before receiving a high school diploma to join the U.S. Armed Forces during a period of war as defined in s. 45.35 (5) (e), Stats.
- 4. Served on active duty under honorable conditions in the U.S. Armed Forces or in forces incorporated as part of the U.S. Armed Forces.

In addition, a school board may award a high school diploma to a person who received a high school equivalency diploma after serving on active duty if the person meets all of these conditions.

Assembly Substitute Amendment 2 to 2001 Senate Bill 61

Assembly Substitute Amendment 2 to 2001 Senate Bill 61 amends current law in the following ways:

1. It provides that if a *deceased* person met the last three of the four conditions in current law as described above (that is, all of the conditions other than age) before dying, a school board may, upon request, award the person a high school diploma posthumously.

2. It would amend the second condition described above to require that the veteran attended high school in the school district *or* attended high school in the state and resides in the school district. Therefore, under the substitute amendment, the diploma could be awarded by *either* of the following:

- (a) The school board governing the school district in which the veteran attended high school.
- (b) The school board where the veteran currently resides as long as the veteran attended high school in the state.

Under current law and the substitute amendment, a school board is authorized to award a high school diploma to veterans under certain conditions but is not required to do so.

Assembly Substitute Amendment 2 to Senate Bill 61 is essentially a combination of: (1) Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 to 2001 Assembly Bill 504 (item 2., above) (recommended by the Assembly Committee on Education on a vote of Ayes, 14; Noes, 0); and (2) Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 to Senate Bill 61 (item 1., above) (recommended by the Assembly Committee on Education on a vote of Ayes, 12; Noes, 0). Assembly Substitute Amendment 2 to Senate Bill 61 was adopted by the Assembly with the bill concurred in, as amended, on a voice vote.

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