



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2005 Senate Bill 286

Senate Substitute Amendment 1

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Under **current law**, a school board may provide an instructional program in human growth and development in grades kindergarten to 12. The program may include instruction in a number of areas, including self-esteem, interpersonal relationships, discouragement of adolescent sexual activity, family life, parenting skills, human sexuality, family planning, and sex stereotypes.

Current law provides that if a school board provides instruction in any of the following areas, the school board must also provide instruction in marriage and parental responsibility:

1. Human sexuality.
2. Reproduction.
3. Family planning, including natural family planning.
4. Human immunodeficiency virus and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome.
5. Prenatal development.
6. Childbirth.
7. Adoption.
8. Available prenatal and postnatal support.
9. Male and female responsibility.

2005 Senate Bill 286 (SB 286) provides that if a school board provides instruction in any of the subjects listed above, it must also ensure that all course materials and instruction related to those areas do all of the following:

1. Present abstinence from sexual activity as the preferred choice of behavior in relationship to all sexual activity for unmarried pupils.
2. Devote more attention to abstinence from sexual activity than to any other behavior.
3. Emphasize that abstinence from sexual activity before marriage is the most effective way to prevent pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including human immunodeficiency virus and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome.

Senate Substitute Amendment 1 (SSA 1) to the bill modifies the requirements created by the bill in two ways:

1. It applies the requirements only to “instruction” related to areas listed under items 1. through 9., above. The bill applied the requirements to “all course materials” as well as “instruction.”
2. It eliminates the requirement that the instruction devote more attention to abstinence from sexual activity than to any other behavior.

Legislative History

On September 21, 2005, the Senate Committee on Education introduced SSA 1 and recommended its adoption on a vote of Ayes, 7; Noes, 0. The committee then voted to recommend passage of the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 7; Noes, 0.

On September 27, 2005, the Senate adopted SSA 1 on a voice vote and passed SB 286, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 24; Noes, 9.

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