



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

**2013 Senate Bill 51**

**Senate Substitute Amendment 2**

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*Contact:* Anne Sappenfield, Principal Attorney (267-9485)

Senate Bill 51 increases the number of credits in mathematics and science that are required to obtain a high school diploma.

### **Current Law**

Under current law, a school board may not grant a high school diploma to any student unless the student has earned all of the following minimum credits in the high school grades:

- Four credits of English.
- Three credits of social studies.
- Two credits of mathematics.
- Two credits of science.
- One and one-half credits of physical education.

Current law also requires the completion of one-half credit of health education in grades seven to 12 to earn a high school diploma.

A school board must award a student a science credit for successfully completing in the high school grades each course in agriculture that the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) has determined qualifies as science according to the criteria established by DPI.

**Senate Bill 51**

Senate Bill 51 increases the required credits in mathematics and science to three.

**Senate Substitute Amendment 2**

Senate Substitute Amendment 2 also increases the required credits in mathematics and science to three.

The substitute amendment requires a school board to award a student up to one mathematics credit for successfully completing a course in computer sciences that DPI has determined qualifies as computer sciences according to criteria established by DPI.

The substitute amendment further requires a school board to award a student up to one mathematics credit for successfully completing in the high school grades a career and technical education course that the school board determines satisfies a mathematics requirement. The substitute amendment also requires a school board to award one science credit for a career and technical education course that the school board determines satisfies a science requirement. Under the substitute amendment, the same career and technical education course may not satisfy both a mathematics and a science requirement.

The amendment provides that the legislation first applies to a high school diploma granted to a pupil in the 2016-17 school year.

**Bill History**

Senate Substitute Amendment 2 was offered by Senator Olsen. On November 12, 2013, the Senate adopted Senate Substitute Amendment 2 and passed the bill, as amended, on voice votes.

AS:ksm