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State of Misconsin 2013 - 2014 LEGISLATURE



2013 ASSEMBLY BILL 555

December 12, 2013 – Introduced by Representative J. Ott, cosponsored by Senator Grothman. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

AN ACT to amend 118.53 (2) and 118.53 (3) of the statutes; relating to: standards for admission into a course offered by a school district of a pupil enrolled in a home-based private educational program.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current law establishes minimum age requirements for the admission of a pupil into four-year-old kindergarten, five-year-old kindergarten, and first grade but permits a school board of a school district to establish standards for early admission into five-year-old kindergarten and first grade. Current law also requires the school board of each school district to establish standards for admission into high school.

Prior to the enactment of 2013 Wisconsin Act 20 (the biennial budget bill), the law required school boards of school districts operating high school grades to allow a pupil enrolled in a private school, a tribal school, or a home-based educational program and who met the standards for admission to high school to take up to two courses during each school semester if the pupil resided in the school district and if there was sufficient space in the classroom. Act 20 expanded this opportunity to permit any pupil enrolled in a home-based private educational program, and not just a pupil who meets the standards for admission to high school, to attend up to two courses during each school semester in any public school in any school district in the state if the pupil meets the standards for admission to the course. Act 20 also required school districts to determine minimum standards for admission to a course at each grade.

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This bill modifies the expanded program created under Act 20 to reflect the fact that prior law permitted a pupil enrolled in a home-based educational program to attend courses in the high school grades if the pupil met the standards for admission to high school.

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

SECTION 1. 118.53 (2) of the statutes, as created by 2013 Wisconsin Act 20, is amended to read:

118.53 (2) In addition to the standards for admission under ss. 118.14, 118.145 (1), and 120.12 (25), the school board of a district shall determine the minimum standards for admission to a course offered by the school district at each grade in grades kindergarten through 8.

Section 2. 118.53 (3) of the statutes, as created by 2013 Wisconsin Act 20, is amended to read:

118.53 (3) A school board shall allow a pupil enrolled in a home-based private educational program, who has met the standards for admission to the course under sub. (2), to attend up to 2 courses at a public school in the district during each school semester if the school board determines that there is sufficient space in the classroom.

14 (END)