



2015 ASSEMBLY BILL 824

January 29, 2016 - Introduced by Representatives MURSAU and PETRYK, cosponsored by Senators TIFFANY and VINEHOUT. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 115.436 (2) (a) and 115.436 (3) (a); and *to create* 115.436 (3)
2 (c) of the statutes; **relating to:** sparsity aid.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill authorizes the Department of Public Instruction to pay unexpended sparsity aid to a school district that qualified for sparsity aid in the previous school year but, because of an increase in the school district's membership, does not qualify in the current school year. Current law permits the department to award up to \$300 in sparsity aid per pupil to a school district that has a membership of up to 725 pupils if the school district's membership divided by the school district's area in square miles is less than ten. The bill also changes the membership cap of the school district to 745 pupils beginning in the 2016-17 school year.

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

3 **SECTION 1.** 115.436 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:
4 115.436 (2) (a) The school district's membership in the previous school year was
5 no more than ~~725~~ 745.

6 **SECTION 2.** 115.436 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

ASSEMBLY BILL 824**SECTION 2**

1 115.436 (3) (a) Beginning in the 2009-10 school year, from the appropriation
2 under s. 20.255 (2) (ae) and subject to ~~par.~~ par. (b) and (c), the department shall pay
3 to each school district eligible for sparsity aid \$300 multiplied by the membership in
4 the previous school year.

5 **SECTION 3.** 115.436 (3) (c) of the statutes is created to read:

6 115.436 (3) (c) 1. Beginning in the 2015-16 school year, in any fiscal year in
7 which the department has paid the full amount due to eligible school districts under
8 par. (a) and an unencumbered balance remains in the appropriation under s. 20.255
9 (2) (ae), the department shall, subject to subd. 2., pay to each school district that
10 received aid under this section in the previous school year but does not satisfy the
11 requirement under sub. (2) (a) in the current school year \$300 multiplied by the
12 membership used to determine the payment received by the school district under par.
13 (a) in the previous school year.

14 2. If the appropriation under s. 20.255 (2) (ae) in any fiscal year is insufficient
15 to pay the full amount under subd. 1., the department shall prorate the payments
16 among the school districts eligible to receive aid under subd. 1.

17 **SECTION 4. Initial applicability.**

18 (1) The treatment of section 115.436 (2) (a) of the statutes first applies to
19 eligibility for sparsity aid in the 2016-17 school year.

20 **(END)**