



## Legislative Fiscal Bureau

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October 15, 2013

TO: Members  
Joint Committee on Finance

FROM: Bob Lang, Director

SUBJECT: Senate Bill 336: Increase Funding for Local Youth Apprenticeship Grants

Senate Bill 336 was introduced on October 4, 2013, and was referred to the Committee on Economic Development and Local Government. On October 11, 2013, that Committee recommended the bill for passage on a vote of 5 to 0.

### **BACKGROUND**

Under current law, the youth apprenticeship program is administered by the Division of Employment and Training (DET) in the Department of Workforce Development (DWD). The youth apprenticeship program provides high school juniors and seniors with a one-year or two-year program that combines academic classroom coursework with mentored on-the-job training in specific occupational areas. The program must include four semesters of related classroom instruction and a minimum of 900 hours of work-based learning under the two-year program. The one-year program must consist of a minimum of 450 work-based learning hours and two semesters of related classroom instruction. Pupils who complete the program receive a Certificate of Occupational Proficiency in addition to their high school diploma. In addition, pupils may receive advanced standing credits in technical college for a related program.

State law specifies that local partnerships must implement and coordinate the local youth apprenticeship program. A local partnership can be any combination of one or more school districts, other public agencies, nonprofit organizations, individuals, or other persons who have agreed to be responsible for implementing and coordinating a local youth apprenticeship program. Individual grants are limited to \$900 per youth apprentice, and the local partnership must award matching funds equal to 50% of the state grant amount awarded. In 2012-13, 1,899 pupils participated in the youth apprenticeship program and state expenditures for the program totaled \$1,637,700 GPR. Pursuant to 2013 Wisconsin Act 20, \$1,733,700 GPR is provided for local youth apprenticeship grants in 2013-14 and 2014-15.

## **SUMMARY OF BILL AND FISCAL EFFECT**

SB 336 would increase funding for the local youth apprenticeship grants appropriation by \$500,000 GPR in 2013-14 and 2014-15. According to DWD, the increased funding provided under the bill could serve an additional 555 youths, annually. As a result, state funding of \$2,233,700 GPR in 2013-14 and 2014-15 would be provided for the local youth apprenticeship grants appropriation.

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