



1995 ASSEMBLY BILL 883

February 13, 1996 - Introduced by Representatives NASS, GOETSCH, MUSSER, GROTHMAN and WARD. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 43.70 (1), 119.32 (6), 120.08 (2) (a) and 120.18 (1) (a); and **to**
2 **repeal and recreate** 43.70 (1), 119.32 (6) and 120.18 (1) (a) of the statutes;
3 **relating to:** the method of estimating the number of children residing in a
4 school district for purposes of taking an annual school count.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, annually each school district must certify to the state superintendent of public instruction (state superintendent) a report of the total number of children between the ages of 4 and 20 residing in the school district (school census). The state superintendent then uses the school census to apportion to each school district the moneys received as income in the common school fund for the school districts to use to purchase library books and other instructional materials for the school libraries. Current law permits a school district to estimate the number of children in the school census by using statistically significant sampling techniques that have been approved by the state superintendent. This bill permits a school board to estimate the number of children between the ages of 4 and 20 residing in the school district by using a process, rather than statistically significant sampling techniques, that has been approved by the school board, rather than by the state superintendent. The bill also eliminates all statutory references to a "school census" and instead refers to a counting of the persons residing in a school district as a "school count".

For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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

SECTION 1

1 **SECTION 1.** 43.70 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 43.70 (1) No later than October 15 of each year, each school district
3 administrator shall certify to the state superintendent, on forms provided by the
4 state superintendent, a report of the total number of children between the ages of 4
5 and 20 years residing in the school district on the preceding June 30. The number
6 may be estimated by using ~~statistically significant sampling techniques that have~~
7 a process that has been approved by the state superintendent school board of the
8 school district certifying the report.

9 **SECTION 2.** 43.70 (1) of the statutes, as affected by 1995 Wisconsin Acts 27, and
10 (this act), is repealed and recreated to read:

11 43.70 (1) No later than October 15 of each year, each school district
12 administrator shall certify to the department, on forms provided by the department,
13 a report of the total number of children between the ages of 4 and 20 years residing
14 in the school district on the preceding June 30. The number may be estimated by
15 using a process that has been approved by the school board of the school district
16 certifying the report.

17 **SECTION 3.** 119.32 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 119.32 (6) The superintendent of schools shall take an annual census count of
19 all persons between the ages of 4 and 20 residing in the city and at the same time shall
20 collect such additional statistics and information relating to schools and the
21 population entitled to school privileges in the city as the board directs. The census
22 count may be estimated by using ~~statistically significant sampling techniques that~~
23 have a process that has been approved by the state superintendent board.

24 **SECTION 4.** 119.32 (6) of the statutes, as affected by 1995 Wisconsin Act (this
25 act), is repealed and recreated to read:

1 119.32 (6) The superintendent of schools shall take an annual count of all
2 persons between the ages of 4 and 20 residing in the city and at the same time shall
3 collect such additional statistics and information relating to schools and the
4 population entitled to school privileges in the city as the board directs. The count may
5 be estimated by using a process that has been approved by the board.

6 **SECTION 5.** 120.08 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 120.08 (2) (a) Upon petition filed with the school district clerk signed by 3% of
8 the number of heads of families residing in the school district as enumerated by the
9 last school census count or 100 electors, whichever is less, or upon the motion of the
10 school board in a common or union high school district, a special meeting shall be
11 called by the school district clerk or, in his or her absence, by the school district
12 president or school district treasurer. If the petition includes a subject beyond the
13 power of the special meeting to transact, the school district clerk shall reject such
14 subject and so notify each elector signing the petition.

15 **SECTION 6.** 120.18 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

16 120.18 (1) (a) Except in a union high school district, ~~the school census, showing~~
17 ~~the numbers and ages of children~~ a count of all persons between the ages of 4 and 20
18 residing in the school district. The census count may be estimated by using
19 ~~statistically significant sampling techniques that have~~ a process that has been
20 approved by the ~~state superintendent~~ school board of the school district. Children
21 cared for at a charitable or penal institution of this state may not be included in the
22 report. The school district clerk may employ a competent person to take the school
23 census count.

24 **SECTION 7.** 120.18 (1) (a) of the statutes, as affected by 1995 Wisconsin Act
25 (this act), is repealed and recreated to read:

