



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2015 Senate Bill 59	Senate Substitute Amendment 1
<i>Memo published: April 20, 2015</i>	<i>Contact: Katie Bender-Olson, Staff Attorney (266-2988)</i>

2015 SENATE BILL 59

The bill requires the of the University of Wisconsin (UW) Board of Regents (the Board) to submit an annual report to the Legislature that identifies the high schools of UW students who were required to take remedial courses in English or mathematics in the prior year. Specifically, the report must identify only Wisconsin high schools and must be based on placement test performance of students in the previous 12 months. The bill prohibits the Board from disclosing the identities of any students in the reports.

SENATE SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 1

The substitute amendment specifies that the reports submitted by the Board must state the number of students from each high school that were required to take remedial courses. However, the UW is required to identify only those high schools with more than six students who were required to take remedial courses, rather than identifying all such high schools. Raising the reporting threshold to six minimizes the possibility that the identity of students could be ascertained on the reports. This could occur if the total number of students who attend UW System institutions from a specific high school were equal to the number required to take remedial courses.

The substitute amendment also requires the Board to submit the annual report to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and in turn requires the superintendent to provide a copy of the report to each school board in the state. These reporting requirements are in addition to the bill's requirement for the Board to submit the report to the Legislature.

BILL HISTORY

Senator Roth offered Senate Substitute Amendment 1 on March 27, 2015. On April 16, 2015, the Senate Committee on Education Reform and Government Operations adopted the amendment on a vote of Ayes, 5; Noes, 0. The committee then voted to recommend passage of the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 4; Noes, 1.

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