



State of Wisconsin  
2025 - 2026 LEGISLATURE

LRB-1615/P2

ARG:cdc

DOA:.....Kirschbaum, BB0361 - HEAB Administrative Attachment to DOA

**FOR 2025-2027 BUDGET -- NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION**

**AN ACT ...; relating to:** the budget.

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*Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

**EDUCATION**

**HIGHER EDUCATION**

***Administrative attachment of HEAB and DLAB to DOA***

Under current law, the Higher Educational Aids Board is an independent agency in the executive branch of state government. HEAB administers most of the state's higher education financial aid programs.

This bill attaches HEAB to DOA for administrative purposes. Under current law, a board that is attached to another agency for administrative purposes is a distinct unit of that agency and exercises its powers and duties independently of that agency, but performs budgeting, program coordination, and related management functions under the direction and supervision of that agency.

Under current law, the Distance Learning Authorization Board is administratively attached to HEAB. DLAB administers the state's reciprocity agreement governing authorization and oversight of higher education institutions that provide distance education to out-of-state students.

This bill attaches DLAB for administrative purposes to DOA instead of HEAB.

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

**SECTION 1.** 15.67 of the statutes is renumbered 15.105 (36), and 15.105 (36) (title), (a) (intro.) and (b), as renumbered, are amended to read:

15.105 **(36)** (title) HIGHER EDUCATIONAL AIDS BOARD;~~CREATION~~. (a) (intro.)  
There is created a higher educational aids board consisting, attached to the department of administration under s. 15.03. The board shall consist of the state superintendent of public instruction and the following members appointed for 3-

**BILL****SECTION 1**

year terms, except that the members specified under ~~pars. (a) 5.~~ subds. 1. e. and 6. f. and ~~(b) 3.~~ 2. c. shall be appointed for 2-year terms:

(b) If a student member under ~~sub. (1) par. (a)~~ loses the status upon which the appointment was based, he or she shall cease to be a member of the higher educational aids board upon appointment to the higher educational aids board of a qualified successor.

**SECTION 2.** 15.675 (title) of the statutes is repealed.

**SECTION 3.** 15.675 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 15.105 (37), and 15.105 (37) (intro.), as renumbered, is amended to read:

15.105 **(37)** DISTANCE LEARNING AUTHORIZATION BOARD. (intro.) There is created a distance learning authorization board, for higher education, that is attached to the ~~higher educational aids board~~ department of administration under s. 15.03 and that consists of all of the following members:

**SECTION 4.** 20.235 (3) (title) of the statutes is repealed.

\*\*\*\*NOTE: This SECTION involves a change in an appropriation that must be reflected in the revised schedule in s. 20.005, stats.

**SECTION 5.** 20.235 (3) (g) of the statutes is renumbered 20.505 (4) (g), and 20.505 (4) (g) (title), as renumbered, is amended to read:

20.505 (4) (g) (title) *General Distance learning authorization board; general operations.*

\*\*\*\*NOTE: This SECTION involves a change in an appropriation that must be reflected in the revised schedule in s. 20.005, stats.

**SECTION 6.** 20.505 (4) (h) of the statutes is amended to read:

20.505 (4) (h) *Program services.* The amounts in the schedule to carry out the responsibilities of divisions, commissions, and boards attached to the department of

**BILL****SECTION 6**

administration, other than the board on aging and long-term care, the board for people with developmental disabilities, the distance learning authorization board, and the public records board, and to carry out the responsibilities of special and executive committees. All moneys received from fees which are authorized by law or administrative rule to be collected by any division, board or commission attached to the department, other than the board on aging and long-term care, the board for people with developmental disabilities, the distance learning authorization board, and the public records board, and all moneys received from fees that are authorized by law or executive order to be collected by any special or executive committee shall be credited to this appropriation account and used to carry out the purposes for which collected.

**SECTION 7.** 39.86 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

39.86 (5) FEES. The board may establish reasonable fees to be imposed in connection with any function or service provided by the board under this section, including fees for authorizing eligible institutions for the offering of distance education programs. All fees collected by the board shall be credited to the appropriation account under s. ~~20.235 (3) (g)~~ 20.505 (4) (g).

**SECTION 8.** 230.08 (2) (L) 4. of the statutes is amended to read:

230.08 (2) (L) 4. Higher educational aids board, ~~created under s. 15.67~~ attached to the department of administration under s. 15.03.

(END)