



State of Wisconsin
2017 - 2018 LEGISLATURE

LRB-4967/1
EHS:emw&kjf

2017 ASSEMBLY BILL 797

December 27, 2017 - Introduced by Representatives RODRIGUEZ, ANDERSON, DUCHOW, MURSAU and YOUNG, cosponsored by Senators WANGGAARD, JOHNSON, L. TAYLOR and DARLING. Referred to Committee on Children and Families.

AUTHORS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

1 **AN ACT** *to create* 20.437 (1) (ad) and 49.168 of the statutes; **relating to:** a
2 Department of Children and Families pilot project to expand four-year-old
3 kindergarten programs and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill allows the Department of Children and Families, as a pilot project, to award grants to organizations, including school boards, with existing four-year-old kindergarten programs for the purpose of expanding those programs. The bill requires DCF to consider grant proposals from organizations in no more than three counties and to give a preference to organizations operating programs in economically disadvantaged school districts. The bill also limits the grants to those programs in which each instructor holds a license from the Department of Public Instruction.

Under the bill, DCF may pay for the four-year-old kindergarten grants by using either federal moneys received under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant program or from general purpose revenue appropriated for the purpose of the grant program. The bill requires DCF to submit each proposed grant to the Joint Committee on Finance for a 14-day passive review. In addition, if the amount DCF seeks to issue in grants exceeds the moneys available in the GPR appropriation account, the bill allows DCF to request that JCF transfer money to that appropriation account from another DCF appropriation account.

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1 operating a program located in an economically disadvantaged school district. The
2 department may award grants only to organizations operating programs in which
3 each instructor of 4-year-old kindergarten holds a license from the department of
4 public instruction for the appropriate pupil development level.

5 (3) (a) The department shall pay for the grants under sub. (2) from the
6 appropriation account under s. 20.437 (1) (ad) or (2) (md).

7 (b) The department shall submit each grant it proposes to issue to the joint
8 committee on finance for approval. If the cochairpersons of the joint committee on
9 finance do not notify the department that the committee has scheduled a meeting for
10 the purpose of reviewing the proposed grant within 14 working days after the date
11 the proposed grant was submitted, the department may issue the grant. If, within
12 14 working days after the date the proposed grant was submitted, the cochairpersons
13 of the committee notify the department that the committee has scheduled a meeting
14 for the purpose of reviewing the proposed grant, the department may not issue the
15 grant unless the committee approves the grant.

16 (c) If the amount the department seeks to issue in grants exceeds the moneys
17 available under s. 20.437 (1) (ad), the department may, under s. 13.101 (4), request
18 that the joint committee on finance transfer moneys from another appropriation
19 account under s. 20.437 to the appropriation account under s. 20.437 (1) (ad).

20 (END)