



State of Wisconsin
2015 - 2016 LEGISLATURE

LRB-3200/1
MPG:emw

2015 SENATE BILL 419

December 3, 2015 - Introduced by Senators PETROWSKI, CARPENTER, DARLING, HARSDORF, LEMAHIEU, MARKLEIN, MOULTON, OLSEN, RINGHAND, L. TAYLOR and VINEHOUT, cosponsored by Representatives VANDERMEER, ALLEN, BALLWEG, BERNIER, BROSTOFF, EDMING, T. LARSON, MACCO, MILROY, MURPHY, A. OTT, PETRYK and SKOWRONSKI. Referred to Committee on Transportation and Veterans Affairs.

AUTHORS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

1 **AN ACT** *to repeal* 20.485 (2) (q) and 45.435; and *to create* 20.485 (2) (qm) and
2 45.437 of the statutes; **relating to:** a veterans employment and
3 entrepreneurship grant program, veteran employment grants, granting
4 rule-making authority, and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill eliminates a veteran employment grant program and creates a veterans employment and entrepreneurship grant program. Under current law, the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) may grant certain amounts to employers for each veteran or disabled veteran the employers hire, subject to specific limitations.

This bill eliminates that grant program. Instead, the bill creates a program under which DVA may, beginning in the 2016-17 fiscal year, make up to \$500,000 in grants each year to veterans, employers, and nonprofit organizations to improve employment outcomes for veterans in this state. Specifically, the bill authorizes DVA to award grants to assist veteran entrepreneurs, to give employers in this state incentives to hire veterans, especially disabled veterans, to help fund employment training for veterans, especially disabled veterans, and for other programs or purposes as determined by DVA.

The bill requires DVA to promulgate rules establishing the goals grant recipients must meet before receiving any grant moneys. The bill also requires DVA to submit an annual report concerning the grant program to the governor and the legislature.

