

Senate Committee on Education
September 14, 2017

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
Testimony in support of AB 250 and AB 251

Thank you Chairman Olsen and committee members for your time today engaging in discussion around Assembly Bill 250 and 251. Both bills are the product of the Assembly “Right the Rules” effort and were introduced and passed unanimously by the Assembly Committee on Education. As part of the “Right the Rules” process the Department of Public Instruction (Department) had the opportunity to work with the Assembly committee to update or eliminate outdated language and these bills represent some of that work.

Assembly Bill 250

Assembly Bill 250 (AB 250) eliminates the statutory language requiring that the Department award grants for alternative education programs; the funding for alternative education grants was eliminated in the 2011-13 biennium under 2011 Act 32. AB 250 also eliminates the Department’s related rules regarding the administration of these grants.

Assembly Bill 251

Assembly Bill 251 (AB 251) consolidates several Department administered rule chapters within the Wisconsin Administrative Code, all relating to grants appropriated by the state. Additionally, the bill also provides general procedures for other state grant programs administered by the Department. These common procedures would be followed for all current and future grants that the Department has statutory authority to administer.

The four chapters being consolidated under AB 251 are:

- PI 16 – Four Year Old Kindergarten
- PI 32 – AODA Programs
- PI 38 – Peer Review and Mentoring
- PI 39 – Tribal Language Revitalization

The Department thanks the Assembly Education Committee for their work on these bills and the Senate Education Committee for their time here today. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.