Wisconsin Legislative Council
AMENDMENT MEMO

2019 Senate Bill 412	Senate Amendment 2

2019 SENATE BILL 412

Under current law, two or more school boards may enter into a whole grade sharing agreement that provides for all or a substantial portion of the pupils enrolled in specified grades in any of the school districts to attend school in one or more of the other school districts for all or a substantial portion of a school day. A school board that wishes to enter into a whole grade sharing agreement for the next school year must do so by February 15 of the current school year.

Senate Bill 412 creates a new categorical aid for school boards that enter into whole grade sharing agreements. To be eligible for the additional aid, a school board must do the following:

- Enter into a whole grade sharing agreement.
- Adopt a resolution declaring that it will consider consolidation.

Beginning in the 2019-20 school year, an eligible school board will receive $150 per pupil enrolled in a grade level that is subject to the whole grade sharing agreement, for up to five years. The bill appropriates $750,000 in each year of the current fiscal biennium for the aid.

SENATE AMENDMENT 2

The amendment does the following three things:

- Provides that the categorical aid may be paid beginning in the 2020-21 school year and eliminates the amount appropriated for the 2019-20 school year.
- Requires that a school board not only **enter into** a whole grade sharing agreement, but also **participate in** the agreement in order to be eligible for the aid.
- Extends the current law deadline for entering into a whole grade sharing agreement for the 2020-21 school year from February 15, 2020, to May 1, 2020.

BILL HISTORY

Senator Darling introduced Senate Bill 412 on September 17, 2019, and offered Senate Amendment 2 on October 17, 2019. On October 17, 2019, the Senate Committee on Education recommended adoption of the amendment and passage of the bill, as amended, on votes of Ayes, 9; Noes, 0.

RES:jal