

First Dollar Credit

20. *Increase First Dollar Credit.* Increase the amount of the first dollar credit applicable to the 2009(10) and 2010(11) property tax years by \$55,000,000. Provide \$55,000,000 GPR in 2010-11 for the credit payment in July, 2010, for the 2009(10) property tax year.

Milwaukee Parental Choice Program Accountability Requirements

Adopt the following provisions with respect to the choice program, beginning in the 2010-11 school year unless otherwise specified.

21. *Choice Program -- Pupil Testing.* Modify the Governor's recommendations regarding pupil testing to create a procedure under which choice schools could be required to administer the 4th, 8th, and 10th grade knowledge and concepts examination (WKCE) approved by the State Superintendent. Specify that, if the State Superintendent informs the Co-Chairs of the Joint Committee on Finance and the chairs of the appropriate standing committees in each house of the Legislature in writing before January 1, 2010, that a redesigned version of the WKCE will not be administered to pupils in public schools in the 2011-12 school year, then choice schools would not be required to administer the WKCE to choice pupils in the appropriate grades beginning in the 2010-11 school year and the current law testing requirement for choice schools would apply. If the State Superintendent does not make any such written indication, choice schools would be required to administer the WKCE beginning in the 2010-11 school year.

22. *Choice Program -- Staff Credentials.* Adopt the Governor's recommendations with respect to staff credentials. Modify the bill to define administrator to mean the superintendent, supervising principal, executive director, or other person who acts as the administrative head of a choice school.

Specify that if a teacher employed in a choice school has been teaching for the five consecutive years prior to the effective date of the bachelor's degree requirement, the teacher could apply to DPI for a temporary, nonrenewable waiver from that requirement. On the waiver application, require the teacher to submit a plan indicating the name of the accredited institution of higher education at which the teacher will pursue a bachelor's degree and the anticipated date on which the teacher expects to complete the degree. Specify that the waiver would apply through the 2014-15 school year. Allow DPI to promulgate emergency rules, without the finding of an emergency to implement this provision, including any additional information to be included on the waiver application and the process by which the waiver application will be judged.

23. *Choice Program -- Teacher's Aides.* Require choice schools to ensure that any teacher's aide employed by the school has graduated from high school, been granted a declaration of equivalency of high school graduation, or been issued a general education development certificate of high school equivalency, beginning with the 2010-11 school year.

24. *Choice Program -- School Accreditation.* Delete the provisions in the bill that would, beginning in the 2010-11 school year, require choice schools to achieve accreditation from an authorized organization by August 1 of the school year in which it first participates in the

program and that would require schools participating in the program on the effective date of the bill to achieve accreditation by August 1, 2010.

Require a choice school that was not participating in the program on the effective date of the bill and is not accredited to obtain preaccreditation from the Institute for the Transformation of Learning (ITL) at Marquette University by August 1 before the first school term of participation in the program that begins after the effective date of the bill, or by May 1 if the school begins participating in the program during summer school. Specify that an accredited school would not be required to obtain preaccreditation as a prerequisite to providing instruction to additional grades or in an additional or new school. Define preaccreditation to mean the review and approval of an educational plan. Specify that this review includes consideration of whether the school submitting the plan meets the statutory requirements of a private school. Specify that the fact that a school has obtained preaccreditation does not require an accreditation organization to accredit the private school. Specify that, if ITL determines during the preaccreditation process that a school does not meet the statutory requirements of a private school, ITL must report that information to DPI.

Delete ITL from the list of statutory accrediting agencies and specify that a school may not apply for accreditation from ITL after the effective date of the bill. Specify that any school that has applied for accreditation from ITL before the effective date of the bill may complete the process with ITL and may seek renewal of accreditation from ITL.

Require an accrediting agency to review and report to DPI on a school's compliance with the requirements for the maintenance of progress records and the issuance of high school diplomas. Allow the agency to determine compliance by examining an appropriate sample of pupil records. Delete the bill provision that specifies that compliance with these requirements be done by a certified public accountant conducting the independent financial audit of the school.

25. *Choice Program -- Bilingual Education.* Require a choice school with an enrollment of more than 10% limited-English proficient pupils to have a bilingual-bicultural education program, beginning in the 2010-11 school year.

26. *Choice Program -- Provision of Information.* Modify the bill provision requiring choice schools to provide certain information to each person who applies to attend the private school to instead specify that the information be provided to each pupil, or the parent or guardian of each minor pupil, who applies to attend the school.

Delete the following items from that list: (1) a list of the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the members of the school's governing body and of the school's shareholders, if any; (2) a statement that the school agrees to permit public inspection and copying of any record of the school to the same extent as required of, and subject to the same terms and enforcement provisions that apply to, an authority under state public records and property law; and (3) a statement that the school agrees to provide public access to meetings of the governing body of the school to the same extent as is required of, and subject to the same terms and enforcement provisions that apply to, a governmental body under state open meetings law.

Add the following items to that list: (1) the name, address, and telephone number of the

school and the name of one or more contact persons at the school; (2) a list of the names of the members of the school's governing body and of the school's shareholders, if any; and (3) a copy of the policy governing visitors and visits to the school, which would be required under the motion.

Require choice schools to provide to DPI a signed statement from each individual who is a member of the school's governing body verifying that fact.

Modify the bill provision requiring choice schools to provide certain information to any person upon request to instead specify that the information on pupil attendance be provided upon request by any pupil, or by the parent or guardian of a minor pupil who is attending or who applies to attend the school. Specify that the information on pupil testing and promotion be provided for only the five previous years that the school participated in the program, rather than all years of participation, as under the bill.

Require choice schools to submit all of the information under the modified bill provisions to DPI by August 1 of each year.

27. *Choice Program -- Required Meeting.* Beginning in the 2010-11 school year, require a choice school to annually schedule two meetings at which members of the governing body of the school will be present and at which pupils and the parents or guardians of pupils applying to attend the school or attending the school may meet and communicate with the members of the governing body. Require a school, within 30 days after the start of the school term, to notify DPI in writing of the scheduled meeting dates and, at least 30 days before the scheduled meeting date, notify in writing each pupil or the parent or guardian of each minor pupil applying to attend the school or attending the school of the meeting date, time, and place.

28. *Choice Program -- Transfer of Progress Records for Closed School.* Create a second option for the transfer of progress records for a choice school that ceases operation. Specify that if the school is affiliated with an organization that will maintain the progress records of each choice pupil who attended the school for at least five years after the school ceases operation, the school may transfer a pupil's records to the organization if the pupil or the parent or guardian of a minor pupil consents in writing to the release of the progress records to the affiliated organization. Require the school to send written notice from each pupil or the parent or guardian of each minor pupil who consents to the transfer of progress records under this provision to DPI. Require the written notice to include the name, phone number, mailing address, and other relevant contact information of the organization that will maintain the progress records, and a declaration by the affiliated organization that the organization agrees to maintain the progress records for at least five years after the school ceases operation.

29. *Choice Program -- Pupil Priority Under Enrollment Limit.* Modify the bill provision to establish a pupil priority under the enrollment limit to require the State Superintendent to issue an order notifying participating schools that they may begin accepting additional pupils if the total choice enrollment falls below the 22,500 pupil limit. Specify that the priority list under the bill would take precedence over the current law provision require the State Superintendent to ensure that choice schools accept pupils on a random basis. Require that, if a choice school does not accept an applicant because it has reached its maximum general capacity or seating capacity, the

school must notify the applicant in writing and that the notice must include the reason why it cannot admit the applicant.

30. *Choice Program -- Transfer of Records.* Delete the bill provision specifying that the penalty of for a choice school for violating the bill requirement for transfer of records within five working days for a pupil transferring to another school or school districts be the withholding of payments.

Milwaukee Parental Choice Program Funding and Other Provisions

31. *Reestimate Program Participation [LFB Paper #640].* To reflect a reestimate of program participation and the per pupil payment in 2010-11, delete \$5,992,000 GPR and reduce the MPS choice aid reduction by \$2,696,400 in 2010-11.

32. *Choice Program Auditor and Fees [LFB Paper #641].* Adopt Alternatives A1, B1 and C1, which would adopt the Governor's recommendation as clarified regarding the auditor position and fees.

33. *Reduce Per Pupil Amount.* Reduce the per pupil payment from \$6,607 in 2008-09 to \$6,442 in 2009-10 and in 2010-11. Beginning in 2011-12, resume the current law adjustment to the payment amount, based on the percentage increase in total funding (all funds) for general school aids. Based on this 2.5% reduction, decrease GPR funding by \$3,382,500 in 2009-10 and \$3,997,500 in 2010-11, and reduce the MPS choice aid reduction by \$1,860,300 in 2009-10 and \$2,198,600 in 2010-11, compared to the reestimated amounts in item 14.

34. *Change Funding Split [LFB Paper #643].* Reduce the MPS aid reduction related to the choice program from the current law 45% to 41.6% in 2009-10 and 38.4% in 2010-11 and thereafter. Reduce the MPS choice aid reduction by an estimated \$4,490,000 in 2009-10 and \$8,716,000 in 2010-11, compared to the funding provided under item 15 for the lower per pupil amounts. Specify that DPI would remit these moneys using the same payment schedule as for equalization aids to the City of Milwaukee, to be used by the City to defray the levy it raises on behalf of MPS. Specify that these moneys would be considered state aid for purposes of revenue limits.

35. *High Poverty Aid [LFB Paper #643].* Increase funding for high poverty aid by \$3,700,000 GPR annually from the \$15,000,000 GPR annually that would be provided under AB 75. It is estimated that MPS would receive \$9,900,000 annually from this funding in the 2009-11 biennium. Specify that eligible school districts would receive aid calculated as follows: (a) divide the funding by the total number of pupils enrolled in the eligible districts; and (b) multiply the per pupil aid amount by the number of pupils in an eligible district. Pupils enrolled would be defined as the membership used in calculating equalization aid in the first aid year of each biennium.

36. *Choice Pupils Counted in MPS Enrollment for Per Pupil Property Value [LFB Paper #643].* Adopt Alternative A2, which would delete the Governor's provisions.

37. *Choice Pupils Who Transfer to MPS in Mid-Year After School Closing.* Specify that