

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT -- EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

Technical Education Equipment Grants
[LFB Paper #690]

Motion:

Move to create a technical education equipment grant program as follows:

a. Allow DWD to allocate up to \$500,000 annually for technical education equipment grants to school districts from the Department's workforce training grants appropriation. In addition, permit DWD to expend funding from the Department's workforce training administrative appropriation for the administration of the technical education equipment grant program.

b. Require DWD to award grants of not more than \$50,000 to school districts whose grant applications are approved by the Department.

c. Require a school district that is awarded a grant to use the grant moneys awarded for the acquisition of equipment that is used in advanced manufacturing fields in the workplace, together with any software necessary for the operation of that equipment and any instructional material necessary to train pupils in the operation of that equipment.

d. Require a school district that is awarded a technical education equipment grant to provide matching funds equal to 200 percent of the grant amount awarded. The match may be in the form of money contributed from private sources or an amount equal to the value of the equipment.

e. Require a school district that wishes to receive a technical education equipment grant to apply for the grant in accordance with procedures and requirements established by the Department. Require that a grant application describe the purpose and need for the grant, the projected outcomes that the school district is seeking to achieve as a result of receiving the grant, the amount and source of the required matching funds and any other information that DWD may require.

f. Require the DWD Secretary to appoint an advisory committee composed of five representatives from different industrial sectors of the economy and from different geographic regions of Wisconsin, to assist DWD in reviewing and evaluating grant applications.

g. Require DWD, in consultation with the advisory committee, to review and evaluate a grant application in accordance with procedures and criteria established by the Department.

h. Require each school district that receives a grant to file a report with DWD by September 1 of each of the first three fiscal years following the fiscal year in which the grant was

received. The report must describe how the grant moneys were expended, describe the outcomes achieved as a result of receiving the grant, share the best practices employed by the school district regarding the training of pupils in the use of the equipment acquired with the grant moneys, include a plan for sustainability of that training, and provide such other information as the Department may require under rules promulgated by DWD.

i. Require DWD to promulgate rules to implement the program, including: (1) rules establishing the procedures and requirements for applying for a grant, including the information that must be submitted with a grant application, (2) rules establishing the procedures and criteria for awarding a grant, and (3) rules governing the reporting requirements, including the information that must be provided in a submitted report. Authorize DWD to promulgate the administrative rules required to implement the program as emergency rules without having to provide a finding of emergency.

j. Authorize DWD to award grants from the Department's workforce training grants appropriation to a school district to support building modifications needed to support a school district's technical education programs.

Note:

The motion would provide no additional funding to the appropriation.

[Change to Base: \$0]

[Change to Bill: \$0]