

An Act to Revitalize Democracy

Purpose

This act will enable the constituents of the state of Wisconsin to have a greater say in their government by diminishing the effects of socio-economic status in the election process.

Analysis

Under current law employees are entitled to 3 hours off on election day during voting hours, these hours are unpaid, must be requested in advance, and are scheduled by the employer.

This bill designates election day as a state holiday, which has no legal repercussions. Additionally, this bill requires students to be given time off in certain circumstances.

Proposal for Action

- I. The first Tuesday after the first Monday in the month of November shall be considered a state holiday.
- II. All educational institutions with greater than 50% of students eligible to vote must suspend all classes and extracurricular activities.

Funding

No funding is necessary for the implementation of this bill

Penalties

Any institution, agency, or employer who violates any part of the above bill will pay a \$50 fine for each eligible voter who may have been prevented from voting. The fine will be doubled for a second offense to \$100 per person, and again doubled for the third offense to \$200 per reason, and doubled for each offense after that.

Effective date

This bill shall go into effect on the 1st of November which is three months after the governor's signature.

The above example bill was written before the implementation of the current bill format, and then adapted. This resulted in the inclusion of requirements already mandated under Wisconsin law. Make sure to research the current laws surrounding your bill topic before you write your bill, however the analysis should be written after you have completed the other five sections; you cannot analyze something that has not yet been written.

The analysis should be comprised of two paragraphs of one or two sentences each. The first paragraph MUST begin "Under current law..." and the second paragraph MUST begin "This bill requires..." The analysis is intended to provide a background in the current legal structure surrounding the bill, and also give readers a quick, clear understanding of what the bill does. Another example of a bill is on the following page.

An act to limit class sizes

Purpose:

This bill is intended to enhance students' learning by enabling them to build relationships with their teacher through smaller classes.

Analysis:

Under current law there are no regulations on class sizes in public or private schools.

This law would require schools to cap almost all of their core classes at 29 students.

Proposal for Action

No public school (K-12) may have any core classes greater than 29 students. Core subjects are math, English, science, social studies, history, geography, or foreign language classes. Schools must also limit AP, CAPP, and IB classes to 29 students per class. In circumstances in which a single educator teaches multiple classes at the same time (eg. a merged AP and CAPP language course) the total number of students enrolled in the classes may not exceed 29. This includes the total number of students in a distance course (where students from one school participate in a class at a different school virtually through a television and camera). This would also limit the number of students in online classes, though one teacher may teach multiple online classes on the same subject. Schools may apply for one exemption per year, and enroll up to 35 students in a single class.

Funding:

This bill would be funded through municipalities which fund schools, most likely through a slight property tax increase.

Penalties:

Any public school found in non-compliance will have $\frac{1}{3}$ of its state aid withdrawn, Private schools will face penalties of up to $\frac{1}{3}$ of their total tuition revenue.

Effective date:

This bill will go into effect 3 years after the governor's signature.

Please note that there is NO justification in either of the bills. You should provide the justification for your bill in your opening and closing summations during debate. Please keep bills concise in order to minimize reading time in chambers, increasing the number of bills debated.