

# Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty: What's next for Wisconsin and the Every Student Succeeds Act?

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**Milwaukee, WI** - Wisconsin will implement the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) in the 2018-19 school year, a federal education law that replaces No Child Left Behind. But Wisconsin's state plan, submitted to the U.S. Education Department and approved in 2018, was largely devoid of major reforms and opted against using new powers and federal dollars for K-12 education.

Today WILL releases a memo, "[Leaving Money on the Table](#)" by Associate Counsel Libby Sobic, to outline exactly how Wisconsin's state plan can be improved, and how the state legislature can act to improve Wisconsin's state plan or even submit a new one. The memo identifies ways

- Wisconsin can more fully utilize federal dollars,
- Do more to improve low-performing schools, and
- Expand course access for rural schools.

In addition, there is the looming issue of whether the state has the legal authority to implement the existing ESSA state plan.

To learn more about Wisconsin and the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), see WILL's previous work:

- [10 Things Everyone Must Know About the Every Student Succeeds Act \(ESSA\)](#)

- [FAQ on the Every Student Succeeds Act \(ESSA\)](#)
- [Wisconsin State Journal: “Legislature should have more say on schools” - CJ Szafer and Libby Sobiech](#)
- [Wall Street Journal: “Wisconsin Educators Have a Proposal—but It’s Dull and Conventional” - CJ Szafer and Libby Sobiech](#)