



# JASON M. FIELDS

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## STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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Press Release  
For Immediate Release

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### **Bi-Partisan Minority Teacher Loan Program Expansion Bill Passes Assembly Committee**

**Madison** – This week, Assembly Bill 51 (AB 51), bi-partisan legislation authored by Rep. Amy Loudbeck (R-Clinton), Rep. Jason Fields (D-Milwaukee), Sen. Dale Kooyenga (R-Brookfield) and Sen. Lena Taylor (D-Milwaukee) to expand the existing Wisconsin Minority Teacher Loan Program, passed unanimously with broad, bi-partisan support in the Assembly Committee on Colleges and Universities committee.

AB 51 and its Senate companion bill, Senate Bill 55 (SB 55), would allow a minority teacher who works in a public or private school in a Wisconsin school district in which minority students constitute at least 40% of the membership to be eligible to apply for student loan forgiveness. The bill amendment authored by Loudbeck and Fields, that also passed committee unanimously, adds language to include tribal schools. The current program is limited to schools in the City of Milwaukee and the program is underutilized.

“I am proud that in light of Teacher Appreciation Week we are moving forward with a bi-partisan bill that will expand this program, providing a tool for diverse Wisconsin communities to hire and retain quality teachers. This is an important step to helping retaining and attracting teacher talent as we continue search for effective ways to reduce the achievement gap and give kids the opportunities to succeed.”

HEAB’s informational paper includes eligibility, forgiveness criteria and loan repayment:  
<http://heab.state.wi.us/docs/programs/mtl-flyer.pdf>

See the [Bill Draft](#) and [Co-Sponsor Memo](#)

Read the bill language here: <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2019/proposals/reg/asm/bill/ab51>

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