

Higher education credit transfer bill on Evers' desk

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WAUKESHA — The Wisconsin State Assembly passed Assembly Bill 189, led by State Rep. Scott Allen, R-Waukesha, on Tuesday, sending it to Gov. Tony Evers for signing.

The bill is intended to streamline credit transfer between the University of Wisconsin system, Wisconsin technical colleges, private colleges and universities, and tribal schools. Currently there are two credit transfer

models that the bill is looking to address: The course-to-course model, which allowed students transfer up to 30 credit hours depending on course guidelines, and the program-to-program model, which allowed for transferring the entirety of learning outcomes.

Allen said while the bill isn't exciting or glamorous, he hopes the work he has done with Waukesha County Technical College President Kaylen Betzig benefits students.

"We heard from students that this would be a huge

benefit," Allen said.

The two systems created large confusion, according to an earlier press release.

The system made it so that students often wouldn't know which credits were transferring. The legislation more than doubles the amount of transferrable credits from 30 to 72 core general education courses.

Allen added that students shouldn't be buried under a mountain of debt like the students before them.

"We want to get students to a place where they don't have to start over at a four-

year university after attending a tech school," Allen said. "Because what teenager really knows what they want to do at 18? Not many and they shouldn't be penalized for starting over at a four-year once they decide."

Allen said the bill "has the potential to bring tremendous benefit to the state of Wisconsin and we are now one step closer to becoming law."

The bill is now at the desk of Evers.

To review the bill visit docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2019/proposals/ab189.