



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

**2013 Wisconsin Act 28**  
[2013 Assembly Bill 214]

***Ex Parte* Communications With the  
Public Service Commission**

Under current law, certain people are not allowed to communicate about the merits of, or a threat or offer of reward related to, an ongoing contested case before the Public Service Commission (PSC) (*ex parte* communications) unless they do so in the context of the formal contested case process. This process generally affords all parties the opportunity to participate in any communications. There are certain exceptions to this prohibition.

2013 Wisconsin Act 28 adds an additional exception to this prohibition which allows these *ex parte* communications during a contested case before the PSC by or to any official or employee of the PSC other than the hearing examiner or a commissioner.

***Initial Applicability:*** The Act first applies to *ex parte* communications made on the effective date of the Act.

***Effective date:*** July 7, 2013

***Prepared by:*** Larry Konopacki, Senior Staff Attorney

July 11, 2013

LAK:jb;ksm

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov>.