



1999 ASSEMBLY BILL 431

August 19, 1999 – Introduced by Representatives STASKUNAS, SCHNEIDER, HUEBSCH, KELSO, GOETSCH, STONE, PETTIS, SERATTI, RYBA, LADWIG, M. LEHMAN, MUSSER, J. LEHMAN, F. LASEE, SYKORA, COGGS, NASS, MEYERHOFER, HASENOHRL and KEDZIE, cosponsored by Senators ROESSLER, RUDE, HUELSMAN and FARROW. Referred to Committee on Judiciary and Personal Privacy.

1 **AN ACT to create** 137.01 (5m) of the statutes; **relating to:** confidentiality of
2 documents reviewed by notary publics.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, notary publics are asked to attest to a person's signature on various documents, including deeds and other conveyances, may administer oaths, take depositions and acknowledgements of deeds, accept inland bills of exchange and perform other duties related to the office of notary public. This bill provides that all documents reviewed by a notary public while performing the duties of a notary public and the information contained in those documents are confidential and may be released by the notary public only with the written consent of the person who requested the notary public's services.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

3 **SECTION 1.** 137.01 (5m) of the statutes is created to read:
4 137.01 (5m) CONFIDENTIALITY. All documents and the information contained
5 in any documents reviewed by a notary public while performing his or her duties as
6 a notary public shall be confidential and may be released by the notary public only

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SECTION 1

1 with the written consent of the person who requested the services of the notary
2 public. Any notary public violating this subsection shall be subject to the provisions
3 of sub. (8) and may be required to forfeit not more than \$500.

4 (END)