



State of Wisconsin  
2019 - 2020 LEGISLATURE

LRB-2721/1  
MLJ:ahc

## 2019 ASSEMBLY BILL 638

December 2, 2019 - Introduced by Representatives CROWLEY, SORTWELL, BOWEN, ANDERSON, SINICKI, ZAMARRIPA and VINING, cosponsored by Senators JOHNSON, L. TAYLOR and LARSON. Referred to Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety.

1     **AN ACT to repeal** 946.49 (1) (a) and (b); **to renumber and amend** 946.49 (1)  
2           (intro.); **to amend** 946.49 (2); and **to create** 946.49 (3) of the statutes; **relating**  
3     **to:** bail jumping and providing a penalty.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Under current law, bail jumping means failure to comply with the terms of a bond after being released from custody in a pending criminal matter. Bail jumping for a defendant who has been released on bond after being charged with a crime is a Class A misdemeanor if the offense with which the defendant is charged is a misdemeanor and a Class H felony if the offense with which the defendant is charged is a felony, and bail jumping for a witness for whom bail has been required is a Class I felony. Under this bill, bail jumping means failure to appear as required or failure to comply with a term of a bond that prohibits contact with another individual or prohibits his or her presence in a specified location. Under the bill, any form of bail jumping is a Class B misdemeanor, regardless of the underlying offense or whether the person for whom bail is required is a defendant or a witness. In addition, under this bill, a person may only be charged with bail jumping once per underlying charge for which he or she has been released on bail.

