



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2005 Wisconsin Act 67
[2005 Senate Bill 174]

**Inmate Use of Wine in a Religious
Service**

2005 Wisconsin Act 67 amends the law relating to the use of wine in a religious service in a prison, jail, or house of correction.

Prior law generally prohibited a person from giving, selling, or delivering to any prisoner any alcoholic beverages, unless medically indicated. A prisoner also was prohibited from using intoxicating liquor.

Wisconsin Act 67 amends the law to provide that a member of the clergy may possess no more than two ounces of wine in a prison, jail, or house of correction if the wine is intended to be used in a religious service. The clergy member also may give or deliver a reasonable amount of wine to an inmate and an inmate may consume that wine as part of the religious service. The Department of Corrections is not required to purchase or store wine for an inmate, a chaplain, or any other member of the clergy.

Effective Date: The act takes effect on January 6, 2006.

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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.state.wi.us/>.