



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2013 Assembly Bill 496

Assembly Amendment 1

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2013 Wisconsin Act 25 created a prohibition on the release of customer information by a municipal utility. The Act defined “customer information” as any information received from customers that serves to identify customers individually by usage or account status. The Act included an exception for information released with the consent of the customer, and five other exceptions. 2013 Wisconsin Act 47 created four additional exceptions to the Act 25 prohibition.

2013 Assembly Bill 496 creates an additional exception to the prohibition on the release of customer information by a municipal utility that allows a municipal utility to release customer information to licensed real estate brokers and salespersons and certified or licensed appraisers in connection with real estate transactions and real property appraisals. The bill also requires the Public Service Commission (PSC) to create a form to be used to obtain a customer’s consent to release the customer’s information. The PSC need not create the form by administrative rule.

Assembly Amendment 1 specifies that a municipal utility that sends a billing statement to a customer on a postcard does not violate the prohibition on the release of customer information by a municipal utility.

BILL HISTORY

On November 12, 2013, Assembly Amendment 1 was introduced and recommended for adoption, and Assembly Bill 496 was recommended for passage, as amended, by the Assembly Committee on Energy and Utilities by votes of Ayes, 10; and Noes, 0.

LAK:ksm