



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2015 Senate Bill 322	Senate Amendments 1 and 2
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2015 SENATE BILL 322

2015 Senate Bill 322 makes various changes relating to resolutions of claims against the state for wrongful imprisonment. Key changes include an increase in the amount of compensation that the State Claims Board may award for a claim of wrongful imprisonment and various changes to procedures for consideration and resolution of wrongful imprisonment claims.

SENATE AMENDMENT 1

The bill creates an exemption from state income taxes for compensation received by an individual, or an individual's estate, from the State Claims Board as a result of a claim against the state for wrongful imprisonment, and for specified other financial assistance authorized under the bill. In addition, the bill allows an individual who receives such compensation to elect health insurance coverage under a health plan offered to state employees.

Senate Amendment 1 exempts the value of the portion of health insurance premiums paid by the state to such individuals from state income taxes.

SENATE AMENDMENT 2

The bill authorizes the State Claims Board to award \$50,000, adjusted for inflation, per year, or any portion of a year, for which a person is found to have been wrongfully imprisoned.

Senate Amendment 2 requires such claims to be prorated based on the number of days of a year in which a person receiving a claim was wrongfully imprisoned.

The amendment also requires the State Claims Board to develop a pamphlet regarding financial information management services, and to issue the pamphlet to individuals who receive compensation from the claims board as a result of a claim for wrongful imprisonment. The pamphlet must include links and general contact information for publicly available financial management tools and resources.

BILL HISTORY

Senate Amendment 1 was introduced by Senators Wanggaard and Risser on December 14, 2015. Senator Wanggaard introduced Senate Amendment 2 on January 12, 2016. On January 13, 2016, the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety voted to recommend adoption of Senate Amendments 1 and 2, and passage of the bill, as amended, on votes of Ayes, 4; Noes, 0.

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