



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

**2017 Assembly Bill 305**

**Assembly Substitute  
Amendment 1**

*Memo published:* October 25, 2017

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### **2017 ASSEMBLY BILL 305**

Assembly Bill 305 requires the Department of Health Services (DHS) to create a grant program for language interpretation services in medical clinics and hospitals that are located in a rural area or serve a medically underserved population. The bill requires DHS to distribute \$100,000 in each fiscal year for grants under the program, from the state appropriation for Medical Assistance (MA) program benefits. The bill also requires DHS to seek any available federal MA participation funds to match the grants distributed under the program.

### **ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 1**

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 retains the creation of the grant program but removes provisions related to the MA program. Instead of drawing from the appropriation for MA benefits, the substitute amendment creates an annual appropriation for grants for interpretation services, from general program revenue, in the amount of \$100,000. Under the substitute amendment, DHS must distribute that amount in each fiscal year for grants under the program, beginning in fiscal year 2018-19. Also, the substitute amendment removes the requirement to seek federal MA participation funds in connection with the grant program.

### **BILL HISTORY**

Adoption of Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 and passage of the bill, as amended, were recommended by the Assembly Committee on Health on votes of Ayes, 7; Noes, 2, on October 19, 2017.

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