



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2017 Assembly Bill 40

**Assembly Amendment 1 to
Assembly Substitute
Amendment 1**

Memo published: February 27, 2018

Contact: Julia Norsetter, Staff Attorney

2017 ASSEMBLY BILL 40

Assembly Bill 40 authorizes the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) to award a grant of up to \$3,000 to a new business¹ to hire a paid intern who will perform functions related to the creation of the new business. To qualify for a grant, a new business must be organized in this state no earlier than five years before the business applies for a grant. A paid intern hired by a new business must be enrolled at an institution of higher education in this state in the field of business, engineering, information technology, or a similar field as determined by WEDC. The bill requires WEDC to allocate at least \$125,000 in each fiscal year to fund grants authorized under the bill.

Also under the bill, an institution of higher education that develops a program to support internships funded by these grants may be awarded an additional grant by WEDC if other conditions are met. The amount of this additional grant may not exceed \$25,000.

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1

The substitute amendment significantly retains the provisions of the bill described above except that the substitute amendment provides that grant funds may be used to hire a student who is enrolled at an institution of higher education in this state in a **relevant field as determined by the corporation**. Also under the substitute amendment, the program sunsets on July 1, 2021.

¹ Under the bill and the substitute amendment, a “new business” means a business organized in this state on a date not more than 60 months before the date on which the business applies for a grant under the bill.

Assembly Amendment 1

Assembly Amendment 1 modifies the definition of “new business” to mean a business organized in this state on a date not more than 60 months before the date on which the business applies for a grant under the bill **or a business that first filed a return for taxes under ch. 71 on a date not more than 60 months before the date on which the business applies for a grant under the bill.**

BILL HISTORY

Assembly Bill 40 was introduced on January 30, 2017, by Representative Barca and others. On January 23, 2018, Representative Neylon and others offered Assembly Substitute Amendment 1. On February 22, Representatives Neylon and Barca offered Assembly Amendment 1 to Assembly Substitute Amendment 1. That same day, the Assembly recommended adoption of Assembly Amendment 1 to Assembly Substitute Amendment 1, and adoption of Assembly Substitute Amendment 1, as amended, to Assembly Bill 40, on voice votes. The Assembly recommended passage of Assembly Bill 40, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 90; Noes, 1.

JN:ksm