



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2019 Wisconsin Act 14
[2019 Senate Bill 239]

**Regulation of Small Cell Wireless
Technology**

2019 Wisconsin Act 14 creates a statewide regulatory framework for deployment of small wireless equipment and facilities by wireless services and infrastructure providers. A “small wireless facility” is defined under the act as a wireless facility of a certain size, and serves as the primary infrastructure element used by the new wireless technology generally referred to as “5G” or “small cell” technology.

The regulatory framework created by the act includes provisions regarding the placement of small wireless facilities in rights-of-way, application and permit fees, height and size restrictions, maintenance and access requirements, enforcement of existing contracts for up to two years, indemnification provisions, and dispute resolution requirements.

Additionally, while not directly related to the deployment of small wireless facilities, the act also contains provisions relating to setback requirements for mobile service support structures; limits on regulation of micro wireless facilities, as defined by the act; and the creation of a rights-of-way study committee.

Effective date: July 12, 2019

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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.wisconsin.gov>.