
Wisconsin Legislative Council

AMENDMENT MEMO



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Contact: Michael Queensland, Senior Staff Attorney

2019 Assembly Bill 786

Assembly Amendments 1, 2 and 3

ASSEMBLY BILL 786

With certain exemptions, Assembly Bill 786 establishes mandatory initial training requirements for guardians. The bill requires a proposed guardian of the person or the estate to submit a sworn and notarized statement to the court that the person has completed the training requirements. The bill exempts from this training requirement an entity that is a guardian regulated by the Department of Health Services (DHS) or a volunteer guardian who has completed the training requirements with regard to a prior ward.

The bill also requires DHS to award a grant to an organization with expertise in state guardianship law to develop, administer, and conduct the required guardian training. An organization awarded the grant must develop plain language, web-based, online training modules that can be accessed for free, with printed versions available for free upon request. To fund this grant, the bill increases DHS's appropriation by \$135,000 during fiscal year 2019-20 and by \$126,325 for fiscal year 2020-21.

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1

Assembly Amendment 1 exempts any person nominated for appointment or seeking appointment as a guardian of a minor from the initial training requirements in the bill.

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 2

Assembly Amendment 2 provides that a person nominated for appointment or seeking appointment as a guardian of the person may complete the required training in either a web-based, online training, or complete the training using a print version.

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 3

Assembly Amendment 3 clarifies that the following people seeking to become a guardian are exempt from the training requirement created by the bill: an entity that is a guardian regulated by DHS; a volunteer guardian who has already completed the training requirements for a prior ward; and a guardian of a minor.

BILL HISTORY

Representative Zimmerman introduced Assembly Amendment 1 on February 4, 2020 and Assembly Amendments 2 and 3 on February 5, 2020. The Assembly Committee on Judiciary voted on February 6, 2020, to recommend adoption of the amendments on votes of Ayes, 9; Noes, 0, and voted to recommend passage of the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 8; Noes, 1.

MQ:jal