



**WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
ACT MEMO**

2005 Wisconsin Act 226 [2005 Senate Bill 273]	Public Libraries
---	-------------------------

2005 Wisconsin Act 226 makes various changes to statutes governing public libraries, including:

- Excluding the amount a county levies for public library capital expenditures in determining whether a city, town, village, or school district is levying a library tax at a rate at least equal to the county library tax rate, and is thus exempt from the county tax.
- Allowing the appropriate municipal, county, or school district official to pay regular wages, salary, or other recurring payments of a public library when due without prior library board approval. Board approval must occur at the next regular board meeting.
- Expanding a public library board's authority to invest gifts and donations by allowing it to invest such funds in the manner provided for surplus funds of a county, city, village, town, school district, or technical college district.
- Allowing a municipal, county, or joint public library participating in a public library system to provide remote access to its electronic database only to its residents.
- Excluding amounts spent for capital projects from the financial support required for county or municipal library participation in a public library system.
- Increasing, from two to five, the number of additional members that a county board may appoint to a municipal public library board, if certain criteria are met for each additional member relating to the proportion of county to municipal funding of the public library.

Effective Date: The Act takes effect on April 11, 2006.

Prepared by: Mary Offerdahl, Staff Attorney

April 17, 2006

MO:tlu

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.state.wi.us/>.