



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

**2009 Wisconsin Act 284**  
[2009 Senate Bill 429]

**Presumption for Employment-  
Connected Communicable Diseases**

2009 Wisconsin Act 284 provides that in any proceeding involving the application by a correctional officer, emergency medical service provider, fire fighter, or law enforcement officer or his or her beneficiary for disability or death benefits, if the disability or death is found to be caused by an infectious disease, the finding is presumptive evidence that the infectious disease was caused by the employment if a qualifying medical examination given prior to the time of becoming a correctional officer, emergency medical service provider, fire fighter, or law enforcement officer showed no evidence of an infectious disease. The presumption applies for purposes of disability or death benefits under the duty disability and death benefits program administered by the Department of Employee Trust Funds or under any pension or retirement system applicable to correctional officers, emergency medical service providers, fire fighters, or law enforcement officers.

Under the Act, “infectious disease” includes the human immunodeficiency virus, acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, tuberculosis, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, hepatitis D, diphtheria, meningococcal meningitis, methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus, and severe acute respiratory syndrome.

**Effective date:** The Act takes effect on May 27, 2010.

**Prepared by:** Jessica Karls-Ruplinger, Staff Attorney

May 19, 2010

JKR:ksm

---

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/>.