



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

**2015 Wisconsin Act 219**  
[2015 Senate Bill 314]

**Adverse Possession by or Against  
the State or a Political Subdivision**

### CURRENT LAW

Under current law, a person may not gain title to or an interest in real property belonging to the state or local government, by adverse possession, unless the adverse possession or use is uninterrupted for more than 20 years and is based upon a continuously maintained fence line which has been mutually agreed upon by the current land owners.

### 2015 WISCONSIN ACT 219

2015 Wisconsin Act 219 prohibits adverse possession or continuous adverse use **against** real property that is owned by the state or a political subdivision of the state and prohibits adverse possession **by** the state or a political subdivision of the state against private property.

The prohibition applies retroactively to adverse possession where the current occupancy requirements have not been met at the time of the effective date of the Act. [See ss. 893.25 through 893.28, Stats.]

*Effective date:* March 3, 2016

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March 21, 2016

DWS:mcm;ty

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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>.