



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2005 Assembly Bill 192

Assembly Amendments 1 and 2

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Assembly Bill 192 creates a military family relief fund to provide financial aid to the immediate families of members of the national guard or reserves who are serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces. Funding would come from an individual income tax check-off procedure, similar to current check-offs for endangered resources, breast cancer research, and a professional football stadium district, as well as through donations, gifts, and bequests to the fund.

“Immediate family” is defined as the spouse and dependent children of a service member who are residents of Wisconsin. The Department of Military Affairs (DMA) is required to promulgate administrative rules establishing eligibility criteria and the amount of financial aid.

Assembly Amendment 1 provides that the administrative costs incurred by DMA in making payments to families will come out of the fund.

Assembly Amendment 2 makes the bill effective upon enactment, except for the tax check-off language, so that DMA can start paying out money it receives, other than from the tax check-off, as soon as the money comes in. The amendment also requires DMA to issue emergency rules regarding eligibility and payments, so that the payments can begin quickly.

Legislative History

Assembly Amendments 1 and 2 were offered by Representative Molepske. The Assembly Committee on Military Affairs recommended adoption of each amendment by a vote of Ayes, 6; Noes, 0.

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