



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2005 Assembly Bill 673

**Assembly Substitute
Amendment 1**

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Under *current law*, the second week of November is designated Hire a Veteran Week to recognize the contributions and sacrifices of veterans and to encourage the hiring of unemployed veterans. The Governor is directed to issue annually a suitable proclamation for the observance, encouraging all employers to hire veterans.

Assembly Bill 673 does the following:

1. Renames the week Veteran Awareness Week and specifies that the gubernatorial proclamation should encourage citizens to honor veterans during the week, emphasizing educational efforts directed at teaching students about the contributions and sacrifices of veterans, in addition to encouraging the hiring of veterans.
2. Creates a program of veterans as classroom volunteers and awards certificates to veterans who complete 20 hours of volunteer service in a public or private school during a school term. To receive a certificate, the veteran's volunteer service must consist of classroom service with direct interaction with students, emphasizing the lessons the veteran learned from military experience. Also, the veteran cannot be an employee of the school or school district during the term in which the volunteer service takes place. By July 1 after the school term, the veteran must submit to the Department of Veterans Affairs a form signed by the school principal, verifying that the veteran fulfilled the 20 hours of volunteer service.

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 does the following:

1. Retains the current Hire a Veteran Week to encourage all employers to hire veterans and clarifies that it is the week in November that starts on Sunday and ends on Saturday and in which November 11 falls.

2. Creates a distinct Veteran Recognition Week to recognize the contribution and sacrifices veterans have made and specifies that it is the 7-day period that ends on November 11 (Veterans Day). The Governor is required to issue a suitable proclamation for the observance, encouraging all citizens to honor veterans during the week, and emphasizing educational efforts directed at teaching students about the contributions and sacrifices of veterans.
3. Creates the same program of veterans as classroom volunteers as in the original bill and specifies that the form verifying service may be signed by the school district administrator as well as the school principal.

Legislative History

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 was introduced by the bill's author, Representative Wieckert. On November 29, 2005, the Assembly Committee on Veterans Affairs recommended adoption of the substitute amendment, on a vote of Ayes, 7; Noes, 0. The committee then recommended passage of the bill, as amended, also on a vote of Ayes, 7; Noes, 0.

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