



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2013 Assembly Bill 457

**Assembly
Amendment 1**

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Under current law, the Department of Justice (DOJ) provides grants to counties that have established qualifying treatment and diversion (TAD) programs for individuals who have committed offenses related to their use or abuse of alcohol or other drugs. TAD programs provide alternatives to prosecution or incarceration for offenders with substance abuse problems in order to reduce recidivism, promote public safety, and reduce prison and jail populations.

Assembly Bill 457 (the bill) expands eligibility for TAD grants to include TAD programs designed for individuals who have a diagnosed mental illness and who have committed offenses related to their mental illness. The bill provides an additional \$750,000 in general purpose revenue (GPR) for the TAD annual appropriation for the first fiscal year of the fiscal biennium in which the bill takes effect. This funding is earmarked for grants to counties that establish TAD programs that serve individuals with mental illness.

Assembly Amendment 1 to the bill makes the following changes to the bill:

- Instead of providing \$750,000 GPR in additional funding for the first year of the fiscal biennium under Assembly Amendment 1, \$375,000 GPR would be provided in **each** fiscal year of the biennium for grant funding to counties. Assembly Amendment 1 also provides that any of the \$375,000 in expenditure authority provided to the TAD appropriation in 2013-14 that remains unobligated at the end of 2013-14 may be carried forward and utilized in 2014-15.
- Clarifies that the funding provided in the bill must be used exclusively for programming that meets the needs of individuals diagnosed with a mental illness.

BILL HISTORY

Assembly Bill 457 was introduced on October 18, 2013, and referred to the Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice. Assembly Amendment 1 was introduced by Representative Tittl on October 30, 2013.

On October 31, 2013, the Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice voted to recommend adoption of Assembly Amendment 1 and passage of the bill, as amended, on successive votes of Ayes, 7; Noes, 0.

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