



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

<b>2015 Assembly Bill 53</b>	<b>Assembly Amendments 1 and 2</b>
<i>Memo published:</i> February 26, 2016	<i>Contact:</i> Melissa Schmidt, Senior Staff Attorney (266-2298) Michael Queensland, Staff Attorney (266-3810)

### CURRENT LAW

Under current law, a person who threatens to expose information that would injure the reputation of the threatened person or another unless the threatened person transfers property to a person who is not entitled to the property is guilty of a Class I felony, punishable by a term of imprisonment not to exceed three years and six months, a fine of up to \$10,000, or both.

### 2015 ASSEMBLY BILL 53

Assembly Bill 53 (the bill) provides that a person who threatens to expose information that would humiliate or injure the reputation of the injured person, with the intent to extort money or any pecuniary advantage, or with the intent to compel the threatened person to do any act against the person's will or omit to do any lawful act is guilty of a Class I felony. The bill specifies that for purposes of this crime, "information" includes any photograph, exposed film, motion picture, videotape, or data that represents a visual image, a sound recording, or any data that represents or produces an audio signal.

### ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1

Assembly Amendment 1 eliminates threats to expose information that would humiliate or injure the reputation of the injured person **with the intent to compel a person to omit to do any lawful act** from the prohibition created by the bill.

### ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 2

Assembly Amendment 2 specifies that only **malicious** threats to expose information are prohibited by the bill.

**BILL HISTORY**

Representative J. Ott introduced Assembly Amendment 1 on November 3, 2015 and Assembly Amendment 2 on January 12, 2016. On January 19, 2016, the Assembly voted to adopt Assembly Amendments 1 and 2 and passed the bill, as amended, on voice votes.

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