1995 ASSEMBLY BILL 197

March 13, 1995 – Introduced by Representatives Musser, Lorge, Baldwin, Vander Loop, Baldus, F. Lasee, Johnsrud, Hahn, Handrick, Seratti, L. Young, Boyle, Skindrud, Freese, Albers, Kreibich, Springer and Hasenohrl, cosponsored by Senators Schultz, A. Lasee, Wineke, Risser, Decker and Breske. Referred to Committee on State Affairs.

- 1 AN ACT to repeal 85.07 (6); to renumber and amend 125.02 (8m); and to create
- 2 125.02 (8m) (a) and (b) and 125.032 of the statutes; **relating to:** lowering the
- 3 legal drinking age to 19.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

The legal drinking age in Wisconsin is currently 21. The legal drinking age is the age at which a person may legally purchase, possess and consume alcohol beverages and enter premises licensed for the sale of alcohol beverages unaccompanied by a parent, guardian or spouse who has attained the legal drinking age. It is also the age at which a person may obtain most alcohol beverage licenses and permits.

This bill lowers the legal drinking age to 19. The lower legal drinking age will not take effect unless lowering the legal drinking age will not result in a loss of federal highway funds.

For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

- 4 **Section 1.** 85.07 (6) of the statutes is repealed.
- **SECTION 2.** 125.02 (8m) of the statutes is renumbered 125.02 (8m) (intro.) and
- 6 amended to read:
- 7 125.02 (8m) (intro.) "Legal drinking age" means 21 years of age.:

1	SECTION 3. 125.02 (8m) (a) and (b) of the statutes are created to read:
2	125.02 (8m) (a) Except as provided in par. (b), 21 years of age.
3	(b) Nineteen years of age if the attorney general makes the certification under
4	s. 125.032.
5	Section 4. 125.032 of the statutes is created to read:
6	125.032 Certification regarding legal drinking age. (1) If an act of the
7	U.S. congress does any of the following, the attorney general shall, within 30 days
8	after the effective date of that federal act, certify that fact to the revisor of statutes
9	(a) Amends 23 USC 158 to lower the national minimum drinking age to 19
10	years of age.
11	(b) Exempts this state from 23 USC 158.
12	(c) Repeals or amends 23 USC 158 so that no federal highway funds may be
13	withheld from this state if the legal drinking age in this state is 19 years of age.
14	(2) If the attorney general makes the certification under sub. (1), the definition
15	of "legal drinking age" under s. 125.02 (8m) (b) takes effect on the first day of the 2nd
16	month beginning after the day on which the attorney general makes the certification
17	under sub. (1).
18	(END)