

## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF MEMORANDUM

Memo No. 1

## TO: MEMBERS OF THE STUDY COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION OF GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS AND LEGAL NOTICES

- FROM: Scott Grosz, Principal Attorney, and Steve McCarthy, Staff Attorney
- RE: Information Regarding Publication of Legal Notices and Government Documents

DATE: July 12, 2016

The Joint Legislative Council's Study Committee on Publication of Government Documents and Legal Notices is directed, in part, to review current law relating to the publication and distribution of government documents and legal notices, and to study whether current law should be modified to reflect technological advances. Below are links to the following items:

- A copy of the current <u>ch. 985, Stats.</u>, relating to publication of legal notices, public newspapers, and fees.
- Wisconsin Legislative Council Act Memos describing recent legislative enactments relating to publication of government documents and legal notices:
  - <u>2015 Wisconsin Act 79</u>, relating to publishing of legal notices on a municipality's Internet site in lieu of certain posting in public places.
  - o <u>2015 Wisconsin Act 69</u>, relating to publication of Wisconsin Supreme Court rules.
  - <u>2011 Wisconsin Act 228</u>, relating to the creation of a Wisconsin newspaper legal notice website and requirements to place certain legal notices on the website.
- <u>Giving Notice: Publication of Government Activities in the Internet Age</u>, Legislative Report 15-1, Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau (December 2015). The report provides an overview of current Wisconsin legal publication law and discusses relevant legislation in Wisconsin and other states.

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These items are included to facilitate discussion by the Study Committee as it reviews and studies the current law applicable to publication and distribution of government documents and legal notices.

SG:SM:ksm