



State of Wisconsin  
2017 - 2018 LEGISLATURE

LRB-4054/1  
JK:jld

## 2017 ASSEMBLY BILL 494

September 13, 2017 - Introduced by Representatives AUGUST, LOUDENBECK, STEFFEN, KULP, GANNON, RIPP, FELZKOWSKI and KUGLITSCH, cosponsored by Senator NASS. Referred to Committee on State Affairs.

1     **AN ACT to amend** 19.56 (3) (f) and 19.59 (1) (a) of the statutes; **relating to:**  
2             allowing local public officials to receive anything of value that the Wisconsin  
3             Economic Development Corporation or the Department of Tourism is  
4             authorized to provide.

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***Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau***

Current law allows a state public official to receive anything of value from the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation for the purpose of taking a trip to a foreign country primarily to promote trade or hosting individuals in order to promote business, economic development, or tourism. Current law also allows a state public official to receive anything of value from the Department of Tourism for the purpose of housing individuals in order to promote tourism. This bill allows a local public official to receive anything of value from WEDC or the Department of Tourism that a state public official is allowed to receive.

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

5             **SECTION 1.** 19.56 (3) (f) of the statutes is amended to read:  
6             19.56 (3) (f) A state public official or a local public official may receive and  
7             retain from the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation anything of value

**ASSEMBLY BILL 494****SECTION 1**

1 which the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation is authorized to provide  
2 under par. (e) and may receive and retain from the department of tourism anything  
3 of value which the department of tourism is authorized to provide under par. (em).

4 **SECTION 2.** 19.59 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 19.59 (1) (a) No local public official may use his or her public position or office  
6 to obtain financial gain or anything of substantial value for the private benefit of  
7 himself or herself or his or her immediate family, or for an organization with which  
8 he or she is associated. A violation of this paragraph includes the acceptance of free  
9 or discounted admissions to a professional baseball or football game by a member of  
10 the district board of a local professional baseball park district created under subch.  
11 III of ch. 229 or a local professional football stadium district created under subch. IV  
12 of ch. 229. This paragraph does not prohibit a local public official from using the title  
13 or prestige of his or her office to obtain campaign contributions that are permitted  
14 and reported as required by ch. 11. This paragraph does not prohibit a local public  
15 official from obtaining anything of value from the Wisconsin Economic Development  
16 Corporation or the department of tourism, as provided under s. 19.56 (3) (f).

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(END)