



2017 SENATE BILL 476

October 18, 2017 - Introduced by Senators HARSDORF, JOHNSON, COWLES, DARLING, MARKLEIN, RINGHAND, VINEHOUT, WIRCH and OLSEN, cosponsored by Representatives TUSLER, CROWLEY, ANDERSON, BERCEAU, BILLINGS, HORLACHER, JACQUE, KITCHENS, KLEEFISCH, KOLSTE, KREMER, QUINN, SARGENT, C. TAYLOR, VRUWINK, SUBECK and SPREITZER. Referred to Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 801.50 (5r) and 801.50 (5s) of the statutes; **relating to:** venue
2 requirements for domestic abuse, child abuse, and harassment cases.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill changes the venue requirements for actions growing out of domestic abuse, child abuse, and harassment. Under the bill, if a petitioner is a victim advocate, an employee of the county court system, a legal professional practicing law, or a current or former law enforcement officer, or is the spouse or dating partner of one of those persons, an action for a restraining order or injunction in a case of domestic abuse, child abuse, or harassment may be brought in any county within a 100-mile radius of the county seat of the county in which the petitioner resides or is temporarily living.

Under current law, action for a restraining order or injunction in a case of domestic abuse must be brought in the county in which the cause of action arose, where the petitioner or the respondent resides, or where the petitioner is temporarily living, and an action for a restraining order or injunction in a case of child abuse or harassment must be brought in the county in which the cause of action arose or where the petitioner or the respondent resides.

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

3 **SECTION 1.** 801.50 (5r) of the statutes is amended to read:

