1999 ASSEMBLY BILL 77

February 2, 1999 – Introduced by Committee on Information Policy. Referred to Committee on Information Policy.

AN ACT *to renumber* 21.11 (1); and *to create* 21.11 (1) (b) of the statutes; relating to: authorizing the activation of the national guard for public disasters related to the year 2000 computer issues.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, in response to a war, insurrection, rebellion, riot or invasion, in the event of a public disaster resulting from a flood, conflagration or tornado, or upon application of certain public officials, the governor may order into active service all or any portion of the national guard. Current law also includes a procedure for activating the national guard if the governor is not able to do so.

This bill allows for activation of the national guard for a public disaster resulting from a computer device's failure to recognize and respond correctly to the year 2000 date data and in anticipation of such a public disaster.

For further information see the *state* 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:

- **SECTION 1.** 21.11 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 21.11 (1) (a).
- **SECTION 2.** 21.11 (1) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

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21.11 **(1)** (b) 1. In this paragraph "electronic computing device" means any computer hardware or software, computer chip, embedded chip, process control equipment, or other information system used to capture, store, manipulate, or process information, or that controls, monitors, or assists in the operation of physical apparatus that relies on automation or digital technology to function.

2. In anticipation of, or in the event of, a public disaster resulting from the failure of an electronic computing device to process, transmit or receive date data from, into and between the 20th and 21st centuries, and during the years 1999 and 2000, and from leap year calculations, the governor may order into active service all or any portion of the national guard. If the governor is absent, or cannot be immediately communicated with, the commanding officers of any national guard company, battalion or regiment may, upon approval of the adjutant general, if the danger is great and imminent, order out that officer's command to respond to the public disaster. The order shall be delivered to the commanding officer, who shall immediately communicate the order to each, and every subordinate officer. Every company commander receiving an order under this paragraph shall immediately communicate the substance of that order to each member of the company, or if any member cannot be found, a notice in writing containing the substance of the order shall be left at the last and usual place of residence of the member with some person of suitable age and discretion, to whom its contents shall be explained. This paragraph does not apply after December 31, 2000.