ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 1, TO 2003 ASSEMBLY BILL 334

January 14, 2004 - Offered by Committee on Corrections and the Courts.

- AN ACT to repeal 969.12 (1); and to amend 969.12 (2) of the statutes; relating
- **to:** sureties in criminal cases.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a surety -- a person who guarantees the appearance at trial of a criminal defendant and who must pay any fine imposed if the defendant does not appear -- must either be a natural person who is a resident of the state or act as a surety through an automobile club, association, or insurance company. Current law also prohibits a surety from being compensated for acting as a surety.

This bill authorizes an insurer that is licensed to do business in this state to act as a surety. The bill also specifies that the prohibition on compensation for a surety does not apply to an insurer that is licensed to do business in this state or to a person acting as a surety through an automobile club, association, or insurance company.

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

- 3 **Section 1.** 969.12 (1) of the statutes is repealed.
- **SECTION 2.** 969.12 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

(END)
for acting as such a surety <u>under this chapter</u> .
licensed to do business in this state or a surety under s. 345.61, may be compensated
under s. 345.61. No surety under this chapter person or entity, other than an insurer
is a resident of the state, an insurer licensed to do business in this state, or a surety
969.12 (2) A surety under this chapter shall be a natural person, except who