



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

**2007 Assembly Bill 321**

**Assembly Amendments 1 and 2**

*Memo published:* November 5, 2007

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*Assembly Bill 321*, the work product of the Joint Legislative Council's Special Committee on Disaster Preparedness Planning, does the following:

1. Requires schools to conduct two tornado or other hazard drills per year and maintain records of the drills for seven years, in addition to the currently-required monthly fire drills.
2. Creates a statutory Interoperability Council to replace the current council, which was established by executive order.
3. Expands the law providing immunity from liability for certain food donated to a charitable organization or food distribution service during declared emergencies, to also include food donated to a governmental unit and donations of emergency household products.
4. Adds counties to the statute specifically authorizing local units of government to declare emergencies, thereby providing state agent status for certain volunteers during county-declared emergencies. [State agent status provides a person with legal representation by the Department of Justice, limits damages to \$250,000 (with no punitive damages allowed), and requires the state to pay the damages.]
5. Expands the current law that provides for state agent status for specified types of volunteers at health care facilities during emergencies, to also provide state agent status for the facilities themselves.

*Assembly Amendment 1* would give state agent status to specified types of volunteers at a mass clinic run by the Department of Health and Family Services or a local health department during a public health emergency. A mass clinic would be operated during a defined period of time to provide

vaccinations, prophylaxis, medication, or other specialized treatment to a population in response to a public health emergency.

**Assembly Amendment 2** would require schools, in communities with recognized fire departments, to file an annual report with the fire chief pertaining to fire drills and tornado or other hazard drills conducted, on a form furnished by the Department of Commerce. Where no fire drill is conducted in a month, or where only one or no tornado or other hazard drill is conducted in a year, the school must state the reasons in the report.

**Legislative Action**

In executive session on June 12, 2007, the Assembly Committee on Homeland Security and State Preparedness recommended adoption of Assembly Amendment 1 on a vote of Ayes, 7; Noes, 0, and recommended passage of the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 6; Noes, 1.

Assembly Amendment 2 was introduced by Representative Ballweg subsequent to committee action on the bill. On October 30, 2007, the Assembly adopted Assembly Amendments 1 and 2 and passed Assembly Bill 321, as amended, on a voice vote.

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