

State of Misconsin 2013 - 2014 LEGISLATURE



PRELIMINARY DRAFT - NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION



- 1 AN ACT to create 134.495 of the statutes; relating to: contract and lease
- 2 language limitations.

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Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This is a preliminary draft. An analysis will be provided in a subsequent version of this draft.

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

- **Section 1.** 134.495 of the statutes is created to read:
- 4 134.495 Fair contract limitations. (1) In this section:
 - (a) "Consumer" means a person who enters into a contract for the purchase of goods or services.
 - (b) "Rights enforcement disabling provision" is a provision in a standard form contract or lease that modifies or limits otherwise available procedural or substantive rights necessary or useful to a consumer, borrower, tenant, or employee

under in a court action or ail trates

1	(c) Standard form contract or lease means a contract prepared by a person					
2	that is routinely used in business transactions between a person and a consumer,					
3	borrower, tenant, or employee.					
4	(2) A rights enforcement disabling provision in a standard form contract or					
5	lease is void and unenforceable.					
6	(3) This section does not apply to any of the following:					
7	(a) A lease of property having a value in excess of \$200,000.					
8	(b) A contract for the delivery of goods or services having a value in excess of					
9	\$200,000.					
10	(c) A contract for a loan in excess of \$500,000.					
11	(a) A contract of employment for compensation in excess of \$100,000 per year.					
12	(e) A commercial letter of credit.					
13	(4) The department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection shall adjust					
14	the amounts under sub. (3) annually by rule to reflect any changes to the U.S.					
15	consumer price index for all urban consumers, U.S. city average, as determined by					
16	the federal department of labor.					
17	(END)					
	Tomo de proposition bases					

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in the enforcement of rights against the person that prepared the standard form
contract or lease, including any provision that requires the consumer, borrower,
tenant, or employee who is a party to the contract or lease to do any of the following:

- 1. Assert a claim against the person who prepared the contract or lease in a forum that is less convenient, more costly, or more dilatory than a judicial forum established in this state for the resolution of the dispute.
- 2. Assume a risk of liability for the legal fees of the person who prepared the standard form contract or lease, unless those fees are authorized by statute, reasonable in amount, and incurred to enforce a promise to pay money.
- 3. Forego access to evidence otherwise obtainable under the rules of procedure of a convenient judicial forum that is available to hear and decide a dispute between the parties to the contract or lease.
- 4. Present evidence regarding the contract or lease to a purported neutral person who may reasonably be expected to regard the person who prepared the contract or lease as more likely to be a future employer of the neutral person than is the consumer, borrower, tenant, or employee who is a party to the contract or lease.
- 5. Forego his or her right to appeal a decision that is not based on substantial evidence or that disregards the legal rights of the consumer, borrower, tenant, or employee.
- 6. Require commencement of a proceeding regarding the contract or lease sooner than would be required by the otherwise applicable statute of limitations.
 - 7. Decline his or her right to participate in a class action.
- 8. Forego an award of attorney fees, civil penalties, punitive damages, or of multiple damages otherwise available by law.

9. Wase & right of court to a sold



8 of 30 DOCUMENTS

Michie's Annotated Statutes Of New Mexico

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*** This section is current through the First Session of the Fifty-First Legislature ***

CHAPTER 44. MISCELLANEOUS CIVIL LAW MATTERS ARTICLE 7A. UNIFORM ARBITRATION

Go to the New Mexico Code Archive Directory

N.M. Stat. Ann. § 44-7A-1 (2013)

§ 44-7A-1. Short title; definitions

- (a) The provisions of this act may be cited as the "Uniform Arbitration Act" [44-7A-1 to 44-7A-32 NMSA 1978].
 - (b) As used in the Uniform Arbitration Act:
- (1) "arbitration organization" means an association, agency, board, commission or other entity that is neutral and initiates, sponsors or administers an arbitration proceeding or is involved in the appointment of an arbitrator;
- (2) "arbitrator" means an individual appointed to render an award, alone or with others, in a controversy that is subject to an agreement to arbitrate;
 - (3) "court" means a court of competent jurisdiction in this state;
- (4) "disabling civil dispute clause" means a provision modifying or limiting procedural rights necessary or useful to a consumer, borrower, tenant or employee in the enforcement of substantive rights against a party drafting a standard form contract or lease, such as, by way of example, a clause requiring the consumer, tenant or employee to:
- (a) assert a claim against the party who prepared the form in a forum that is less convenient, more costly or more dilatory than a judicial forum established in this state for resolution of the dispute;
- (b) assume a risk of liability for the legal fees of the party preparing the contract, but a seller, lessor or lender may exact for a buyer, tenant or borrower an obligation to reimburse the seller, lessor or lender for a reasonable fee paid to secure enforcement of a promise to pay money;
- (c) forego access to the discovery of evidence as provided in the rules of procedure of a convenient judicial forum available to hear and decide a dispute between the parties;



1 of 1 DOCUMENT

Michie's Annotated Statutes Of New Mexico

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CHAPTER 44. MISCELLANEOUS CIVIL LAW MATTERS ARTICLE 7A. UNIFORM ARBITRATION

Go to the New Mexico Code Archive Directory

N.M. Stat. Ann. § 44-7A-5 (2013)

§ 44-7A-5. Disabling civil dispute clause voidable

In the abitration of a dispute between a consumer, borrower, tenant or employee and another party, a disabling civil dispute clause contained in a document relevant to the dispute is unenforceable against and voidable by the consumer, borrower, tenant or employee. If the enforcement of such a clause is at issue as a preliminary matter in connection with arbitration, the consumer, borrower, tenant or employee may seek judicial relief to have the clause declared unenforceable in a court having personal jurisdiction of the parties and subject matter jurisdiction of the issue.

HISTORY: Laws 2001, ch. 227, § 5.

NOTES:

LexisNexis 50 State Surveys, Legislation & Regulations

Alternative Dispute Resolution

JUDICIAL DECISIONS

RELATION TO FAA

In light of the New Mexico Supreme Court's holding in *Fiser* that 44-7A-1(b)(4)(f) NMSA 1978 and this section, which provide that any waiver of a consumer's right to a class action in an arbitration agreement is void and unenforceable, are not preempted by the Federal Arbitration Act (FAA), 9 U.S.C.S. §§ 1-6, the Court of Appeals of New Mexico held that the FAA did not prevent application of the doctrine of unconscionability to a one-sided arbitration agreement that a nursing home required to be signed as a condition of admission. New Mexico courts are not to be used to enforce unconscionable arbitration clauses. Figueroa v. THI of N.M. at Casa Arena Blanca LLC, N.M., P.3d (Ct. App. July 18, 2012).

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State of Misconsin 2013 - 2014 LEGISLATURE



PRELIMINARY DRAFT - NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

	Lex Cover changes
	AN ACT to create 134.495 of the statutes; relating to: contract and lease
	language (limitations that limits a party's access to procedural or substantive ry
	Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau This is a preliminary draft. An analysis will be provided in a subsequent version of this draft.
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	(a) "Consumer" means a person who enters into a contract for the purchase of
	goods or services.
)	(b) "Rights enforcement disabling provision" is a provision in a standard form
	contract or lease that modifies or limits otherwise available procedural or in a court action of arbitration proceeding that are substantive rights necessary or useful to a consumer, borrower, tenant, or employee

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1 in the enforcement of rights against the person that prepared the standard form contract or lease including any provision that requires the consumer, borrower, 2 tenant, or employee who is a party to the contract or lease to do any of the following: X. Assert a claim against the person who prepared the contract or lease in a more costly of more dilatory than a judicial forum forum that is less convenient established in this state for the resolution of the dis 2. Assume a risk of liability for the legal fees of the person who prepared the standard form contract or lease, unless those fees are authorized by statute, 8 9 reasonable in amount, and incurred to enforce a promise to pay money. 10 3. Forego access to evidence otherwise obtainable under the rules of procedure 11 of a convenient judicial forum that is available to hear and decide a dispute between 12 the parties to the contract or lease. Present evidence regarding the contract or lease to a purported neutral 13 14 person who may reasonably be expected to regard the person who prepared the 15 contract or lease as more likely to be a future employer of the neutral person than 16 is the consumer, borrower, tenant, or employee who is a party to the contract or lease. 17 5. Forego his or her right to appeal a decision that is not based on substantial 18 evidence or that disregards the legal rights of the consumer, borrower, tenant, or 19 employee. & Require commencement of a proceeding regarding the contract or lease 20 sooner than would be required by the otherwise applicable statute of limitations. 21

multiple damages otherwise available by law. Cil Waive the right of alcess to a judicial forum or to just trial, unless the contract or lease includes an arbitration agreement that is subject

8. Forego an award of attorney fees, civil penalties, punitive damages, or of

7. Decline his or her right to participate in a class action.

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tenant, or employee in the enforcement of rights against a person who is a party to the contract or lease.

- (2) A rights enforcement disabling provision in a contract or lease is void and unenforceable if the provision requires the consumer, borrower, tenant, or employee who is a party to the contract or lease to do any of the following:
- (a) Assert a claim against the person who prepared the contract or lease in a forum that is not in this state, or is required because it is more costly than a judicial forum established in this state for the resolution of the dispute or will result in a delay of the resolution of the dispute.
- (b) Assume a risk of liability for the legal fees of the person who prepared the contract or lease, unless those fees are authorized by statute, reasonable in amount, and incurred to enforce a promise to pay money.
- (c) Forego access to evidence otherwise obtainable under the rules of procedure of a convenient judicial forum that is available to hear and decide a dispute between the parties to the contract or lease.
- (d) Present evidence regarding the contract or lease to a purported neutral person who may reasonably be expected to regard the person who prepared the contract or lease as more likely to be a future employer of the neutral person than is the consumer, borrower, tenant, or employee who is a party to the contract or lease.
- (e) Forego his or her right to appeal a decision that is not based on substantial evidence or that disregards the legal rights of the consumer, borrower, tenant, or employee.
- (f) Require commencement of a proceeding regarding the contract or lease sooner than would be required by the otherwise applicable statute of limitations.
 - (g) Decline his or her right to participate in a class action.

1	(c) "Standard form contract or lease" means a contract prepared by a person
2	that is routinely used in business transactions between a person and a consumer,
3	borrower, tenant, or employee.
4	(2) A rights enforcement disabling provision in a standard form contract or
5	lease is void and unenforceable. The provision (insert 3-5)
6	(3) This section does not apply to any of the following:
7	(a) A lease of property having a value in excess of \$200,000.
8	(b) A contract for the delivery of goods or services having a value in excess of
9	\$200,000.
10	(c) A contract for a loan in excess of \$500,000.
11	(d) A contract of employment for compensation in excess of \$100,000 per year.
12	(e) A commercial letter of credit.
13	(4) The department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection shall adjust
14	the amounts under sub. (3) annually by rule to reflect any changes to the U.S.
15	consumer price index for all urban consumers, U.S. city average, as determined by
16	the federal department of labor.
17	(END)
and the second	disabling unless that contract includes a rights ment disabling provision that the parties did not specifically negotiated separately in good faith.
force	ment disabling provision that the parties did not specifically
	negotiated separately in good faith.
	(4) If the existence or enforcement of vights enforcement disabling provision is at issue, a seek of the contract or lease may seek judicial series a precining matter to have the provision declared and unenforce able.
1	y rights enforcement disabling provision is at issue a
part	ty to the contract or lease may seek Judical garier
45	a preliminary nather to have the provision declared it and unextendable.



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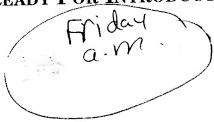
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State of Misconsin 2013 - 2014 LEGISLATURE



PRELIMINARY DRAFT - NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION



And Action (Regin)

AN ACT to create 134.495 of the statutes; relating to: contract and lease

language that limits a party's access to procedural or substantive rights.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This is a preliminary draft. An analysis will be provided in a subsequent version of this draft.

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

SECTION 1. 134.495 of the statutes is created to read:

134.495 Limitations on contract and lease provisions. (1) In this section:

- (a) "Consumer" means a person who enters into a contract for the purchase of goods or services.
- (b) "Rights enforcement disabling provision" is a provision in a contract or lease that modifies or limits otherwise available procedural or substantive rights in a court action or arbitration proceeding that are necessary or useful to a consumer, borrower,

- tenant, or employee in the enforcement of rights against a person who is a party to the contract or lease.
 - (2) A rights enforcement disabling provision in a contract or lease is void and unenforceable if the provision requires the consumer, borrower, tenant, or employee who is a party to the contract or lease to do any of the following:

who is a party to the contract or lease to do any of the following:

(a) Assert a claim against the person who prepared the contract or lease in a forum that is not in this state, is more costly, or will result in a delay of the resolution

of the dispute

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- (b) Assume a risk of liability for the legal fees of the person who prepared the contract or lease, unless those fees are authorized by statute, reasonable in amount, and incurred to enforce a promise to pay money.
- (c) Forego access to evidence otherwise obtainable under the rules of procedure of a convenient judicial forum that is available to hear and decide a dispute between the parties to the contract or lease.
- (d) Present evidence regarding the contract or lease to a purported neutral person who may reasonably be expected to regard the person who prepared the contract or lease as more likely to be a future employer of the neutral person than is the consumer, borrower, tenant, or employee who is a party to the contract or lease.
- (e) Forego his or her right to appeal a decision that is not based on substantial evidence or that disregards the legal rights of the consumer, borrower, tenant, or employee.
- (f) Require commencement of a proceeding regarding the contract or lease sooner than would be required by the otherwise applicable statute of limitations.
 - (g) Decline his or her right to participate in a class action.

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- (h) Forego an award of attorney fees, civil penalties, punitive damages, or of
 multiple damages otherwise available by law.
 - (i) Waive the right of access to a judicial forum or to jury trial, unless the contract or lease includes an arbitration agreement that is subject to judicial review.
 - (3) This section does not apply to any of the following:
 - (a) A collective bargaining agreement.
 - (b) A contract of employment for compensation in excess of \$100,000 per year unless that contract includes a rights enforcement disabling provision that the parties did not specifically negotiate separately in good faith.
 - (4) If the existence or enforcement of a rights enforcement disabling provision is at issue in a court or arbitration proceeding, a party to the contract or lease may seek judicial review as a preliminary matter to have the provision declared void and unenforceable.

14 (END)

(3) Agree to any other provision in the contract or lease that modifies or limits his or her otherwise procedural or substantive rights in a court action or arbitration proceeding.

Nelson, Robert

From:

LRB.Legal

Sent:

Friday, January 17, 2014 10:46 AM

To:

Nelson, Robert

Subject:

FW: Draft review: LRB -2603/P3 Topic: Fair bargain act

Hi Bob, Can you make this a /1 and please put a note on the request sheet so that we jacket it when it comes thru to us?

Thanks so much...

Lori

From: Anderson, John

Sent: Friday, January 17, 2014 10:39 AM

To: LRB.Legal

Subject: RE: Draft review: LRB -2603/P3 Topic: Fair bargain act

Senator Miller would like this to be jacketed for introduction. Thank you.

John Anderson Office of Senator Mark Miller 608-266-9170

From: LRB.Legal

Sent: Friday, October 25, 2013 9:39 AM

To: Anderson, John

Subject: Draft review: LRB -2603/P3 Topic: Fair bargain act

Draft Requester: Legislative Council - IND

Following is the PDF version of draft LRB -2603/P3.

Nelson, Robert

From:

Anderson, John

Sent:

Wednesday, January 22, 2014 10:36 AM

To:

Nelson, Robert

Subject:

FW: Draft review: LRB -2603/P3 Topic: Fair bargain act

Hi Bob. Can we get this jacketed for introduction? Thanks, much. John

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State of Misconsin 2013 - 2014 LEGISLATURE



PRELIMINARY DRAFT - NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

2013 19,11

AN ACT to create 134.495 of the statutes; relating to: contract and lease language that limits a party's access to procedural or substantive rights.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This is a preliminary draft. An analysis will be provided in a subsequent version of this draft.

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

- **SECTION 1.** 134.495 of the statutes is created to read:
- 4 134.495 Limitations on contract and lease provisions. (1) In this section:
 - (a) "Consumer" means a person who enters into a contract for the purchase of goods or services.
 - (b) "Rights enforcement disabling provision" is a provision in a contract or lease that modifies or limits otherwise available procedural or substantive rights in a court action or arbitration proceeding that are necessary or useful to a consumer, borrower,

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SECTION 1

tenant, or employee in the enforcement of rights against a person who is a party to 1 the contract or lease. 2 (2) A rights enforcement disabling provision in a contract or lease is void and 3 unenforceable if the provision requires the consumer, borrower, tenant, or employee 4 who is a party to the contract or lease to do any of the following: 5 (a) For any contract or lease entered into in this state, assert a claim against 6 the person who prepared the contract or lease in a forum that is not in this state. 7 (b) Assume a risk of liability for the legal fees of the person who prepared the 8 9 contract or lease, unless those fees are authorized by statute, reasonable in amount, and incurred to enforce a promise to pay money. 10 (c) Forego access to evidence otherwise obtainable under the rules of procedure 11 of a convenient judicial forum that is available to hear and decide a dispute between 12 the parties to the contract or lease. 13 (d) Present evidence regarding the contract or lease to a purported neutral 14 person who may reasonably be expected to regard the person who prepared the 15 contract or lease as more likely to be a future employer of the neutral person than 16 17 is the consumer, borrower, tenant, or employee who is a party to the contract or lease. (e) Forego his or her right to appeal a decision that is not based on substantial 18evidence or that disregards the legal rights of the consumer, borrower, tenant, or 19 20 the employee. (f) Require commencement of a proceeding regarding the contract or lease $\sqrt{21}$ sooner than would be required by the otherwise applicable statute of limitations. 22 (g) Decline his or her right to participate in a class action. 23

(h) Forego an award of attorney fees, civil penalties, punitive damages, or of

multiple damages otherwise available by law.

1	(i) Waive the right of access to a judicial forum or to jury trial, unless the
2	contract or lease includes an arbitration agreement that is subject to judicial review.
3	(j) Agree to any other provision in the contract or lease that modifies or limits
4	his or her otherwise procedural or substantive rights in a court action or arbitration
5	proceeding.
6	(3) This section does not apply to any of the following:
7	(a) A collective bargaining agreement.
8	(b) A contract of employment for compensation in excess of \$100,000 per year
9	unless that contract includes a rights enforcement disabling provision that the
10	parties did not specifically negotiate separately in good faith.
11	(4) If the existence or enforcement of a rights enforcement disabling provision
12	is at issue in a court or arbitration proceeding, a party to the contract or lease may
13	seek judicial review as a preliminary matter to have the provision declared void and
14	unenforceable.
15	(END)

2013-2014 DRAFTING INSERT FROM THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

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This bill creates limits on contracts and leases between consumers who purchase goods or services and the person who provides those goods or services. Under this bill, a contract or lease is void if that contract or lease contains a provision modifies or limits otherwise available necessary or useful procedural or substantive rights of a consumer, borrower, tenant, or employee in a court action or arbitration proceeding to enforce those rights against a party to the contract or lease.

Examples in the bill of provisions that modify or limit otherwise available necessary or useful procedural or substantive rights include provisions that require the consumer, borrower, tenant, or employee to do any of the following:

1. Assert a claim against the person who prepared the contract or lease in a forum that is not in this state.

2. Forego access to evidence otherwise obtainable under the rules of procedure of a convenient judicial forum.

3. Forego the right to appeal a decision that is not based on substantial evidence or that disregards his or her legal rights.

4. Require the commencement of a proceeding sooner than would be required by the applicable statute or limitations.

5. Forego an award of attorney fees, civil penalties, or punitive damages otherwise available by law.

6. Waive the right to access to a judicial forum or to a jury trial unless the contract or lease includes judicial review of any arbitration agreement.

The bill specifies that these provisions do not apply to collective bargaining agreements or to certain contracts of employment for compensation in excess of \$100,000 per year. The bill also permits a party to a contract or lease to seek judicial review of the enforceability of one of these provisions as a preliminary matter in a court action or arbitration proceeding in which such a provision is at issue.

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Parisi, Lori

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Anderson, John

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