2015 SENATE BILL 423

December 3, 2015 – Introduced by Senators STROEBEL, CARPENTER, DARLING, RISSER and VINEHOUT, cosponsored by Representatives WACHS, J. OTT, E. BROOKS, BERCEAU, BILLINGS, BROSTOFF, CONSIDINE, DANOU, DUCHOW, GANNON, GOYKE, HEBL, HINTZ, KESSLER, KOLSTE, T. LARSON, OHNSTAD, POPE, QUINN, ROHRKASTE, SPREITZER, STEFFEN, SUBECK and VORPAGEL. Referred to Committee on Government Operations and Consumer Protection.

1 AN ACT *to create* 19.45 (8m) of the statutes; **relating to:** employment by a former

2 member of the legislature as a lobbyist.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill prohibits any individual who serves as a member of the legislature, for 12 months following the date on which the individual ceases to hold office, from being employed as a lobbyist. "Lobbyist" is defined as an individual who is compensated by a principal and whose duties include attempting to influence state legislative action or state administrative rule–making action on behalf of the principal; if an individual's duties on behalf of a principal are not limited exclusively to lobbying, the individual is a lobbyist only if he or she makes lobbying communications on each of at least five days during a six–month reporting period.

Violators of the prohibition are subject to a forfeiture (civil penalty) of not more than $5,000 for each violation. Intentional violators are guilty of a misdemeanor and are subject to a fine of not less than $100 nor more than $5,000 or imprisonment for not more than one year or both for each violation.

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

3 SECTION 1. 19.45 (8m) of the statutes is created to read:

1   19.45 **(8m)** No individual who serves as a member of the legislature, for 12

2   months following the date on which the individual ceases to hold office, may be

3   employed as a lobbyist, as defined in s. 13.62 (11).

4   **(END)**