



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2015 Wisconsin Act 149 [2015 Assembly Bill 142]	Knives
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2015 Wisconsin Act 149 does all of the following:

- Repeals a statutory prohibition against the manufacture, sale, transport, purchase, or possession of a switchblade knife.
- Generally prohibits political subdivisions from enacting ordinances or adopting resolutions that regulate knives in a manner that is more stringent than state law. However, the Act does not prohibit a political subdivision from regulating the possession of a knife in buildings owned, occupied, or controlled by the political subdivision.
- Provides that a person may not be in violation of, or charged with a violation of, the disorderly conduct statute or an ordinance relating to disorderly conduct for carrying or going armed with a knife, without regard to whether the knife is concealed or openly carried, unless other facts and circumstances apply that indicate a criminal or malicious intent on the part of the person.
- Allows a person to carry any concealed knife unless the person is prohibited under state law from possessing a firearm.

Effective date: Act 149 took effect on February 8, 2016.

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MQ:LAK:mcm;jal

This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov>.