



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2015 Wisconsin Act 169
[2015 Senate Bill 466]

Delinquent Library Accounts

2015 Wisconsin Act 169 relates to notification to collection agencies and law enforcement about delinquent library accounts.

BACKGROUND

Records of a public library indicating the identity of a person who borrows or uses library materials, resources, or services may not be disclosed, unless an exception applies. The exceptions under which such records may be disclosed are: (1) disclosure subject to a court order; (2) disclosure to library staff acting within the scope of their duties; (3) disclosure by consent of the record subject; (4) disclosure to a custodial parent of the record subject; (5) disclosure to another public library for purposes of borrowing materials for the record subject; and (6) disclosure to law enforcement officers under certain circumstances.

2015 WISCONSIN ACT 169

Act 169 permits a public library to report to a collection agency information about delinquent accounts of an individual who borrows or uses the library's documents, materials, resources or services, as well as the number and type of overdue documents or materials. The Act also permits a public library to report such information to a law enforcement agency, but only if the dollar value of the delinquent account is at least \$50. If a library chooses to disclose information to a collection agency or law enforcement agency, the library may only disclose the individual's name, contact information, and the amount owed.

Effective date: The Act first applies to delinquent amounts that accrue on March 2, 2016.

Prepared by: Brian Larson, Staff Attorney

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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>.