



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

**2015 Wisconsin Act 238**  
[2015 Senate Bill 383]

**Body Cavity Searches**

Under certain circumstances, an arrested person may be the subject of a search of his or her body, including a body cavity search. Wisconsin law only permits a physician, physician assistant, or registered nurse to conduct a body cavity search.

2015 Wisconsin Act 238 confers immunity from civil and criminal liability to a physician, physician assistant, or registered nurse who performs a body cavity search under the allowed circumstances, except for civil liability for negligence in the performance of the act. The Act also extends this immunity to the employer of such persons, and to the health care facility where the search is conducted.

*Effective date:* March 3, 2016

*Prepared by:* Michael Queensland, Staff Attorney

April 11, 2016

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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>.