



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

**2015 Wisconsin Act 355**  
[2015 Assembly Bill 663]

**Restitution Owed to  
Victims of Crime**

2015 Wisconsin Act 355 makes a variety of changes to the way restitution owed to crime victims is collected. Generally, the Act makes the following changes:

- Provides that any garnishment order to collect unpaid restitution remains in place until the restitution is paid in full.
- Prohibits the Department of Corrections (DOC) from collecting a fee from probationers, parolees, and persons on extended supervision to partially reimburse DOC for its costs in providing supervision and other services unless all restitution payments due from the person have been paid by the time the fee is collected.
- Provides that if a defendant fails to make restitution payment in full within the time period ordered by the court, or if the defendant is delinquent in making payments toward restitution as ordered, the clerk of courts or DOC may certify to the Department of Revenue the amount of restitution owed, and DOR may withhold that amount from any state tax refund the defendant receives.
- Provides that if a defendant sentenced to prison is ordered to pay restitution, the court order must require the defendant to authorize DOC to collect, from the defendant's wages and prisoner's account, an amount or a percentage DOC determines is reasonable for payment to victims.
- Requires DOC and each clerk of court that collects restitution to annually submit a report to the Legislature that specifies the following, for each fiscal year:
  - The total amounts of restitution ordered for DOC and each clerk of court to collect.
  - The amount of the fee DOC and each clerk of court collects to offset administrative expenses for collecting restitution.

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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>.

- The amounts of restitution collected by DOC and by the clerk of court and dispersed to victims.

*Effective date:* The Act takes effect on July 1, 2016.

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