



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2017 Wisconsin Act 265
[January 2018 Special Session
Assembly Bill 4]

**Public Housing
Employability Plans and
Drug Screening**

2017 Wisconsin Act 265 creates a requirement, to the extent allowed under federal law, that a public housing authority implement an employability plan and drug screening and testing for certain residents in public housing.

The Act first requires a public housing authority to identify able-bodied public housing residents who are unemployed or underemployed. Once identified, two actions must follow:

- The authority must create an employability plan for the resident and require the resident's participation in the plan.
- The authority must require the resident to complete a controlled substance abuse screening.

If the results of a controlled substance abuse screening provide reasonable suspicion of abuse, and follow-up drug testing is positive without a valid prescription, the authority must offer the resident the opportunity to participate in substance abuse treatment.

The Act authorizes the Department of Administration to promulgate rules to establish standards for determining a public housing resident's status as "able-bodied," "unemployed," and "underemployed."

Effective date: April 12, 2018

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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>.