



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2017 Assembly Bill 531

Assembly Amendment 1

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2017 ASSEMBLY BILL 531

2017 Assembly Bill 531 (“the bill”) requires the Wisconsin Propane Gas Association (“the Association”) to conduct a referendum among its members who are retailers on the question of whether to allow the Wisconsin Propane Education and Research Council (“the Council”) to levy an assessment on propane sold to licensed propane retailers.

The bill provides that, if the majority of the members voting in the referendum vote to approve the assessment, the Council is authorized to levy an assessment, subject to certain limitations set forth in the bill.

Among other limitations, the bill prohibits the initial assessment amount from exceeding two-tenths of one cent per gallon of odorized propane, and it prohibits the Council from increasing the amount of the assessment by more than one-twentieth of one cent per gallon, unless the increase is approved by both the board of directors of the Council and by a **majority** of the retailers voting in a referendum among the retailer members of the Association.

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1

Assembly Amendment 1 (“the amendment”) modifies the referendum results required in order for the amount of the assessment to be increased by more than one-twentieth of one cent per gallon of odorized propane. Specifically, the amendment prohibits the Council from increasing the amount of the assessment by more than one-twentieth of one cent per gallon, unless the increase is approved by both the board of directors of the Council and by **two-thirds** of the retailers voting in a referendum among the retailer members of the Association.

BILL HISTORY

Representative Swearingen offered the amendment on October 19, 2017. On October 24, 2017, the Assembly Committee on Energy and Utilities recommended adoption of the amendment on a vote of Ayes, 14; Noes, 0; and passage of the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 13; Noes, 1.

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