WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
AMENDMENT MEMO

January 2018 Special Session Senate Bill 3	**Senate Amendment 1**
Memo published: **February 16, 2018**	*Contact*: **Andrea Brauer, Staff Attorney**

JANUARY 2018 SPECIAL SESSION SENATE BILL 3

January 2018 Special Session Senate Bill 3 ("the bill") specifies asset restrictions for eligibility for Wisconsin Works (W-2), Wisconsin Shares, and FoodShare related to the value of recipients' homes and vehicles. Under the bill, to be eligible for any of these programs, recipients cannot have more than one home, which cannot be valued at more than 200% of the statewide median for homes, excluding the value of agricultural land. For participation in Wisconsin Shares and FoodShare, the combined equity value of any vehicles, except those used for business purposes, cannot be more than $20,000. For W-2, the bill retains the current standard which limits the equity value of a W-2 work group's vehicles to $10,000.

The bill also allows the Department of Children and Families and the Department of Health Services to establish hardship exemptions to the above by rule. In addition, the bill specifies that the FoodShare restrictions only apply to the extent allowed under federal law, and do not apply to an individual who is elderly, blind, disabled, or under 19 years old.

SENATE AMENDMENT 1

Senate Amendment 1 excludes the value of all "agricultural assets," rather than just the value of agricultural land, when calculating the value of a home. Agricultural assets are defined to mean facilities and property, including farm related equipment, tools, machinery, or livestock of a farmer, that are essential to farming.

BILL HISTORY

Senator Vinehout offered Senate Amendment 1 on February 7, 2018. On February 14, 2018, the Senate Committee on Public Benefits, Licensing, and State-Federal Relations

recommended adoption of Senate Amendment 1 unanimously, and recommended passage of the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 3; Noes, 2.

AB:ty