



**WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
AMENDMENT MEMO**

2019 Assembly Bill 73

**Assembly Substitute
Amendment 1 and Assembly
Amendments 1 and 3 to
Assembly Substitute
Amendment 1**

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Contact: Scott Grosz, Principal Attorney

2019 ASSEMBLY BILL 73

2019 Assembly Bill 73 specifies December 31, 2019 as the date on which the Department of Revenue (DOR) must cease collection of sales tax on behalf of the Southeast Wisconsin Professional Baseball District. The bill also specifies that the district may not incur new obligations after June 30, 2019, and specifies that any lease between the district and a professional baseball team must extend for at least the same number of years during which the sales tax is collected.

ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 1

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 specifies the termination date for the collection of sales tax as March 31, 2020, or a date certified by the district, whichever is earlier. Other than withholding by DOR for certain anticipated refunds, the substitute amendment also provides for the return of excess sales tax collections from the district to DOR, and the distribution of those excess collections to each county that is part of the district, based on tax revenues derived from each county. The substitute amendment specifies each county must use any such revenues only for property tax relief, public safety, parks and recreation, or economic development. The substitute amendment revises the district's powers such that the district may not incur new obligations after the date on which the collection of sales tax terminates, and such that the district may not incur costs or any obligations for signage related to a change in naming rights for the baseball park facilities. Finally, the substitute amendment directs the Legislative Audit Bureau (LAB) to conduct a financial audit of the district if the district reports, not later than January 31,

2020, that it will not have sufficient revenues to meet its obligations by the time the collection of sales tax terminates.

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1 TO ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 1

Assembly Amendment 1 to Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 removes a February 29, 2020 deadline for the completion of the LAB's work.

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 3 TO ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 1

Assembly Amendment 3 to Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 makes several changes to the substitute amendment. First, it revises the termination date for the collection of sales tax to be the last day of the fiscal quarter in which the district certifies the end of the tax to DOR, or August 31, 2020, whichever is earlier. Second, it directs that any excess tax collections be redistributed to the counties comprising the district in proportion to county population, rather than tax revenues derived from each county. Third, it modifies the determination of excess tax collections to be based on taxes **reported** to DOR following the termination date of the sales tax.

BILL HISTORY

2019 Assembly Bill 73 was introduced by Representative Wittke and others on March 7, 2019. Representative Wittke offered Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 on May 21, 2019, and Assembly Amendment 1 to Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 on May 23, 2019. On May 23, 2019, the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means recommended adoption of Assembly Amendment 1 to Assembly Substitute Amendment 1, and Assembly Substitute Amendment 1, and passage as amended, of Assembly Bill 73, on successive votes of Ayes, 8; Noes, 0.

Representative Wittke offered Assembly Amendment 3 to Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 on June 20, 2019. On the same day, the Assembly adopted Assembly Amendments 1 and 3 to Assembly Substitute Amendment 1, adopted the substitute amendment, and passed Assembly Bill 73 on a series of voice votes.

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