February 24, 2020 – Introduced by Representatives Tittel, Brandtjen, Dittrich, Edming, James, Kulp, Skowronski, Sortwell, C. Taylor, Tusler, Wichgers and Spreitzer, cosponsored by Senator Bewley. Referred to Committee on Corrections.

AN ACT to create 301.32 (1m) of the statutes; relating to: the value of tangible personal property allowed in state correctional facilities.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current rules promulgated by the Department of Corrections, a prisoner or resident of a state correctional institution may not possess personal property with a value exceeding $75, except that he or she may possess a musical instrument or electronic item with a value up to $350 and may possess any item that is medically prescribed. Under this bill, a prisoner or resident of a state correctional institution may not possess personal property with a value exceeding $125, or a musical instrument or electronic item with a value exceeding $600. Under the bill, there is no limit for items that are medically prescribed. Under the bill, the allowable value for personal property increases each year to account for inflation.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 301.32 (1m) of the statutes is created to read:

301.32 (1m) PERSONAL PROPERTY; ALLOWABLE VALUE. (a) A prisoner or resident of a state correctional institution may possess a musical instrument or individual or combination electronic item with a purchase value not to exceed $600. The purchase
value of other items except those that are medically prescribed may not exceed $125
for each item.

(b) The value limits established under par. (a) shall be adjusted annually by a
percentage equal to the average of the consumer price index over the preceding
12-month period, all items, U.S. city average, as determined by the bureau of labor
statistics of the federal department of labor, except that the percentage under this
subsection may not be less than zero.

(END)