2019 SENATE BILL 638

January 8, 2020 – Introduced by Senators STROEBEL, JACQUE and KOOYENGA, cosponsored by Representatives BROOKS, DITTRICH, GUNDRUM, HORLACHER, KATSMA, KNODL, KUGLITSCH, MAGNAFICI, STEFFEN, ZIMMERMAN and SKOWRONSKI. Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Revenue and Financial Institutions.

AN ACT to renumber and amend 71.05 (10) (c); and to create 71.05 (10) (c) 2. and 3. of the statutes; relating to: increasing the net capital loss deduction.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, an individual subtracts his or her capital losses from capital gains when computing the amount of gain subject to the state income tax. If the capital losses exceed the capital gains, the individual may use up to $500 of the net loss to offset ordinary income, thus reducing the amount of ordinary income subject to tax. If the individual’s net capital loss exceeds $500, the individual may carry forward the excess to future years and offset up to $500 of ordinary income each year until the net loss is used up. Federal law similarly allows individuals to offset net capital losses against ordinary income and carry forward the excess. However, the maximum annual offset under federal law is $3,000, which is reduced to $1,500 for married individuals who file separate returns. This bill increases the maximum annual offset for Wisconsin income tax purposes from $500 to $1,500 for married individuals filing separately and $3,000 for all other individuals.

Because this bill relates to an exemption from state or local taxes, it may be referred to the Joint Survey Committee on Tax Exemptions for a report to be printed as an appendix to the bill.

For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:
SECTION 1. 71.05 (10) (c) of the statutes is renumbered 71.05 (10) (c) 1. and amended to read:

71.05 (10) (c) 1. The For taxable years ending before January 1, 2020, the amount required so that the net capital loss, after netting capital gains and capital losses to arrive at total capital gain or loss, is offset against ordinary income only to the extent of $500. Losses and, except as provided in subd. 3., losses in excess of $500 shall be carried forward to the next taxable year and offset against ordinary income up to the limit under this paragraph subdivision. Losses shall be used in the order in which they accrue.

SECTION 2. 71.05 (10) (c) 2. and 3. of the statutes are created to read:

71.05 (10) (c) 2. For taxable years beginning after December 31, 2019, the amount required so that the net capital loss, after netting capital gains and capital losses to arrive at total capital gain or loss, is offset against ordinary income only to the extent of $3,000. Any excess net capital loss shall be carried forward to the next taxable year, subject to subd. 3. If the taxpayer is a married person who files separately, the $3,000 limitation in this subdivision shall be $1,500.

3. A net capital loss that is carried forward to a taxable year beginning after December 31, 2019, shall be offset against ordinary income, limited to $3,000, in that taxable year. Losses shall be used in the order in which they accrue. If the taxpayer is a married person who files separately, the $3,000 limitation in this subdivision shall be $1,500.

(END)