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# Wisconsin Legislative Council

## ACT MEMO

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**2023 Wisconsin Act 245**  
[2023 Senate Bill 29]

**Uniform Unsworn  
Declarations Act**

### BACKGROUND

Prior law, referred to as the Uniform Unsworn Foreign Declarations Act, allowed certain types of signed declarations, such as affidavits or statements, that are not given under oath to have the same effect as those that are given under oath if, at the time of making the declaration, the person is physically located outside the United States, and the declaration is given under the penalty of false swearing.

### 2023 WISCONSIN ACT 245

2023 Wisconsin Act 245 replaces prior law with the Uniform Unsworn Declarations Act, based on uniform legislation recommended by the Uniform Law Commission. Specifically, Act 245 expands the authorized use of unsworn declarations to persons located either within or outside the United States, rather than only those physically located outside of the United States, and maintains the requirement that a person signing an unsworn declaration do so under penalty of false swearing.

**Effective date:** March 29, 2024.

For a full history of the bill, visit the Legislature's [bill history page](#).

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