



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

**2009 Wisconsin Act 160**  
[2009 Senate Bill 414]

**School Nurses**

2009 Wisconsin Act 160 makes changes related to the qualifications of school nurses and to administering prescription and nonprescription drugs to pupils.

Under current law, “school nurse” means a registered nurse who is also certified by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) as being qualified to perform professional nursing services in a public school. Under Wisconsin Act 160, “school nurse” means a registered nurse who meets the qualifications of school nurses prescribed by DPI, by administrative rule.

Wisconsin Act 160 also modifies current law under which certain employees and volunteers may administer any nonprescription drug product to a pupil in compliance with written instructions of the pupil’s parent or guardian if the pupil’s parent or guardian consents in writing.

Under Act 160, the nonprescription drug product must be supplied by the pupil’s parent or guardian in the original manufacturer’s package and the package must list the ingredients and recommended therapeutic doses in a legible format. Act 160 also makes various modifications in current statutory language relating specifically to administering nonprescription drugs.

**Effective date:** Act 160 takes effect on March 1, 2011. However, the definition of “school nurse” in the Act becomes effective on January 1, 2011.

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature’s Web site at: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/>.