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## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

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**2009 Wisconsin Act 162**  
[2009 Senate Bill 482]

**Practice of Athletic Trainers**

2009 Wisconsin Act 162 makes the following changes with regard to the regulation and practice of athletic trainers:

- Changes the practice of athletic trainers from authorizing various practice activities relating to “athletic injuries,” to authorizing various practice activities relating to “injuries or illnesses sustained while participating in physical activity.” “Physical activity” is defined as “vigorous participation in exercise, sports, games, recreation, wellness, fitness, or employment activities.”
- Permits athletic trainers to engage in the following additional practices:
  - Rehabilitating and physically reconditioning injuries or illnesses that impede or prevent an individual from returning to participation in physical activity, if the individual recently participated in, and intends to return to participation in, physical activity.
  - Establishing or administering risk management, conditioning, and injury prevention programs.
- Changes the name of the entity that may certify an athletic trainer to the National Athletic Trainers’ Association Board of Certification, Inc., or its successor agency.
- Provides that an athletic trainer does not need a referral to provide athletic training to an individual, **except** a written referral is required to provide athletic training for rehabilitating and physically reconditioning injuries or illnesses sustained while participating in physical activity; or for rehabilitating and physically reconditioning injuries or illnesses that impede or prevent an individual from returning to participation in physical activity, if the individual recently participated in, and intends to return to participation in, physical activity.

**Effective date:** 2009 Wisconsin Act 162 takes effect on March 30, 2010.

**Prepared by:** Laura Rose, Deputy Director

April 26, 2010

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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/>.