



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2009 Wisconsin Act 197
[2009 Senate Bill 515]

Final Disposition of a Decedent

2009 Wisconsin Act 197 modifies the statutes that relate to the document that is known as the authorization for final disposition. Under the statutes, the authorization must be signed and dated by the declarant, with the signature witnessed by two witnesses who have attained age 18 and are not related by blood, marriage, or adoption to the declarant, or be acknowledged before a notary public. Act 197 provides that an authorization for final disposition must either meet those statutory requirements or be a document executed by a member of the U.S. Armed Forces in a manner and on a form provided by the federal Department of Defense that designates a person to direct the disposition of the member's remains. Act 197 provides that this Department of Defense document is a valid authorization for final disposition under the statutes.

Effective date: The Act takes effect on May 6, 2010.

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May 3, 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/>.