



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2015 Wisconsin Act 175
[2015 Assembly Bill 362]

**Multiple Jurisdictional
Health Departments**

WITHDRAWAL FROM PARTICIPATION IN A MULTIPLE JURISDICTIONAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

A county board may, in conjunction with a county board of one or more other counties, establish a multiple county health department. In a county with a population of less than 500,000 (Milwaukee County), a county board and the governing body of a city that has a city health department may also establish a city-county health department. Similarly, the governing body of a city with a city health department may, in concert with the governing body of another city with a city health department, establish a city-city health department. Under limited circumstances, the governing body of a city, village, or town in a county with a population of at least 100,000, but less than 500,000, may establish a multiple municipal local health department.

Under prior law, any participating county board could withdraw from participating in the multiple county health department by giving written notice to its county board of health and the county boards of all other participating counties. A city that had established a local health department prior to deciding to participate in a city-county health department could withdraw from the city-county health department if the city's common council gave written notice to the county board of the participating county. Similarly, after establishing a multiple municipal local health department or a city-city health department, the governing body of any participating city, village, or town could withdraw by giving written notice to the local board of health and to the governing bodies of all other participating cities, villages, and towns.

2015 Wisconsin Act 175 authorizes a multiple county health department, a city-county health department, a city-city health department, and a multiple municipal local health department to establish a minimum participation period of up to five years. If an initial period is established, then a participating county, city, village, or town may not withdraw during that

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.wisconsin.gov>.

initial minimum period unless withdrawal is necessary to meet statutory requirements for a Level I health department.

FINANCING OF MULTIPLE JURISDICTIONAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

A multiple county health department and a city-county health department must prepare annually a budget of its proposed expenditures for the ensuing fiscal year. A certified copy of the budget, which must include a statement of the amount required from each county and city, must be delivered to the county board of each participating county and to the mayor or city manager of each participating city. The appropriation to be made by each participating county and city must be determined by the governing body of the county and city. No part of the cost apportioned to the county may be levied against any property within the city.

Under prior law, the proportionate cost to each county and city was to be made on the basis of equalized valuation.

2015 Wisconsin Act 175 amends how a multiple county or a city-county health department determines the proportionate financial contribution to each county or city. The Act provides that a multiple county or city-county health department must determine the contribution based upon either: (1) the proportionate cost to each participating county and city based upon equalized valuation; or (2) the proportionate levy contribution from each participating county and city on a per capita basis.

Act 175 also extends the budgeting requirements required under prior law to a city-city health department and a multiple municipal local health department. The Act also provides that a city-city health department and a multiple municipal local health department determine the proportionate financial contribution to each participating city, village, and town. A city-city health department and a municipal local health department must determine the contribution based upon either: (1) the proportionate cost to each participating municipality based upon equalized valuation; or (2) the proportionate levy contribution from each participating municipality on a per capita basis.

Effective date: This Act went into effect on March 2, 2016.

Prepared by: Melissa Schmidt, Senior Staff Attorney

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