



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

**2015 Wisconsin Act 65**  
[2015 Senate Bill 81]

**Local Authority to Impose  
Occupational Fees or Licensing**

2015 Wisconsin Act 65 limits the authority of a local government to impose occupational fees or licensing requirements.

### **2015 WISCONSIN ACT 65**

Act 65 prohibits political subdivisions (cities, villages, towns, or counties) from imposing new occupational fees or licensing requirements on any profession, but allows them to continue regulating professions they were regulating as of November 13, 2015. The Act creates an exception for the profession of photographer. No political subdivision may impose an occupational fee or licensing requirement on photographers, even if the political subdivision did so before the Act took effect.

Act 65 also provides that future state regulation of an occupation preempts local regulations and renders them unenforceable. Beginning on November 13, 2015, if the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) or an examining board, affiliated credentialing board, or other board in DSPS imposes any new occupational fees or licensing requirements on any profession previously unregulated by the state, then a political subdivision may no longer regulate that profession and existing regulations do not apply and may not be enforced.

Finally, Act 65 prohibits political subdivisions from imposing certain requirements on contractors that are more stringent than those imposed by DSPS. With regard to the areas in which DSPS may impose requirements on a contractor under s. 101.654, Stats., *Contractor certification and education*, a political subdivision may not impose requirements that are more stringent than those imposed by DSPS.

**Effective date:** November 13, 2015

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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.wisconsin.gov>.