



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2003 Assembly Bill 204

Senate Substitute Amendment 1

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Current law generally requires a technical college district board to hold a referendum if it intends to make a capital expenditure in excess of \$1,000,000. The requirement does not apply to a capital expenditure to purchase or construct an applied technology center if the state Technical College System Board approves the expenditure, the total amount of the expenditure is no more than \$5,000,000, and the expenditure is made before July 1, 2003. Assembly Bill 204 would have extended this date to **July 1, 2005**.

Assembly Amendment 1 repealed the date restriction. Under the amendment, there would be no sunset date for the referendum exemption for capital expenditures for the purchase or construction of an applied technology center.

Senate Substitute Amendment 1 makes the following changes in Assembly Bill 204 as passed by the Assembly:

1. The substitute amendment *reinstates* a date restriction. Under the substitute amendment, expenditures for applied technology centers must be made before **July 1, 2006**. [This is the identical provision added by Senate Amendment 1 to Assembly Bill 204.]
2. The substitute amendment provides that the act takes effect retroactively to July 1, 2003.
3. The substitute amendment requires that the district board finds either within 12 months prior to submittal of the proposal or within the 12 months following submittal of the proposal, the district board has retired or will retire an amount of debt equal to or greater than the amount of debt that will be incurred for the purchase or construction of the applied technology center.

The substitute amendment makes no further changes in the legislation.

Legislative History

2003 Assembly Bill 204 was introduced by Representative Stone and others, cosponsored by Senator Darling and others. It was referred to the Assembly Committee on Colleges and Universities which held a public hearing on the bill on May 20, 2003. On June 3, 2003, the committee held an executive session at which it voted unanimously to offer Assembly Amendment 1, to recommend adoption of the amendment on a vote of Ayes, 9; Noes, 1, and to recommend passage of the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 9; Noes, 1.

The bill was passed in the Assembly by a voice vote on June 25, 2003.

In the Senate, the bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Higher Education and Tourism which had a public hearing on the bill on July 16, 2003. Senator Harsdorf introduced Senate Amendment 1 to Assembly Bill 204 on September 3, 2003. At an executive session held September 10, 2003, the committee voted to recommend adoption of Senate Amendment 1 on a vote of Ayes, 5; Noes, 0, and to recommend passage of the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 5; Noes, 0. The bill was laid on the table in the Senate on September 23, 2003.

The Senate adopted Senate Substitute Amendment 1 and concurred in the bill as amended on voice votes on September 30, 2003.

The Assembly concurred in Substitute Amendment 1 on a vote of Ayes, 83, Noes, 15 on October 1, 2003.

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