

WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2003 Assembly Bill 351

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1

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Assembly Bill 351 establishes a breast cancer research program income tax check-off. Under the bill, every individual filing an income tax return who has a tax liability or who is entitled to a tax refund may designate any amount of additional payment or any amount of a refund to go to the breast cancer research program.

The bill creates a breast cancer research program in the Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS) under which the department awards grants to eligible persons, including physicians, hospitals, clinical laboratories, and institutions of higher education to conduct breast cancer research projects. The bill also requires the Secretary of DHFS to appoint a breast cancer research advisory committee. After consulting with the advisory committee, DHFS is required to promulgate rules specifying eligibility criteria and procedures for awarding grants.

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 creates a breast cancer research program income tax check-off, as described above. However, under the substitute amendment, of the amount received under the income tax check-off, after administrative expenses, 50% goes to the Medical College of Wisconsin and 50% goes to the University of Wisconsin Comprehensive Cancer Center. Those entities are required to use the money for breast cancer research projects and may not use the money to supplant funds available for breast cancer research from other sources.

Legislative History

On October 8, 2003, the Assembly Committee on Public Health recommended passage of the bill by a vote of Ayes 7, Noes 0.

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 was introduced by the Joint Committee on Finance. On February 17, 2004, that committee recommended adoption of Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 and passage of the bill as amended, both by votes of Ayes 15, Noes 0.

On March 10, 2004, the Assembly adopted the substitute amendment by a voice vote, and passed the bill as amended by a vote of Ayes 99, Noes 0.

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