



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2003 Senate Bill 410

**Senate
Amendment 1**

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Senate Bill 410 modifies the statutes related to the fire dues program that is administered by the Department of Commerce. Under that program, a municipality may receive funding for the purchase of fire protection equipment, fire inspection and public education, training of fire fighters and fire inspectors, and funding fire fighters' pension funds or other special funds.

In order to receive funding under the program, current law requires that the fire department must provide for the inspection of every public building and place of employment and must meet other requirements with regard to use of funds received under the fire dues program. The bill requires that the fire department must be in "substantial compliance" with those statutory requirements.

Senate Amendment 1 requires the Department of Commerce to promulgate a rule that defines "administrative expenses" for purposes of the statute that relates to distribution of fire dues funds for administrative expenses. Under the statutes, money is transferred from the fire dues appropriation line to the administrative expenses appropriation line in an amount specified in the appropriation schedule in ch. 20, Stats. On June 30 of each year, the unencumbered balance in the administrative expenses appropriation line reverts to the fire dues appropriation line. The amendment requires the Department of Commerce to promulgate a rule that defines "administrative expenses" and requires that the proposed rule be submitted to the Legislative Council Rules Clearinghouse no later than the first day of the sixth month after the day after publication of the act.

Legislative History

Senate Amendment 1 was introduced by Senator Ronald Brown. On February 4, 2004, the Senate adopted the amendment, and passed the bill as amended, both by voice votes.

RNS:tlu:ksm;jal