



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2005 Assembly Bill 1188

**Assembly
Amendments 1 and 2**

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Under *current law*, a state employer must continue to pay required employer contributions toward the health insurance premium of an insured employee while the insured employee is on a leave of absence for the first three months of the leave of absence. If the insured employee is receiving temporary disability compensation, the employer must generally pay the employer contributions toward the health insurance premium for the entire leave of absence.

Assembly Bill 1188 provides that a classified or unclassified employee who takes a leave of absence may not receive any health insurance coverage during the leave of absence, if the premiums are paid in whole or in part by the state, if any of the following occur:

- During any part of the leave of absence the employee is a candidate for a partisan political office or a nonpartisan state elected office.
- During any part of the leave of absence the employee is employed by a candidate for partisan political office or a nonpartisan state elected office, a political party, or a political committee.

An employee described above may elect to continue to receive health insurance coverage that he or she received immediately before taking a leave of absence by paying the entire premium for the health insurance coverage.

Assembly Amendment 1 clarifies that the bill's provision is an exception to current law relating to employer contributions toward the health insurance premium of an insured employee who is on a leave of absence.

Assembly Amendment 2 provides that, if a legislator or other state elected official becomes a candidate for any state elected office that he or she does not currently hold, the legislator or other elected state official may not receive during the period of his or her candidacy any of the following: (a) state health insurance coverage; (b) creditable service under the Wisconsin Retirement System; (c) payment

of any allowance for, or reimbursement of, legislative expenses; and (d) use of any staff assigned to his or her office.

Legislative History

Assembly Amendment 1 was offered by the Assembly Committee on State Affairs. Assembly Amendment 2 was offered by Representative Schneider. On May 2, 2006, the Assembly adopted Assembly Amendments 1 and 2 on separate voice votes and passed the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 95; Noes, 1.

AS:tlu:wu