

WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2007 Assembly Bill 362		Assembly Substitute Amendment 1
Memo published: September 24, 2007	Contact:	Pam Shannon, Senior Staff Attorney (266-2680)

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 to Assembly Bill 362 does the following:

- 1. Creates a separate nonlapsible trust fund designated as the Military Family Relief Fund for the payment of financial aid to military families. The fund consists of money collected through a newly created individual income tax checkoff, together with donations, gifts, and bequests to the fund.
- 2. Requires the Department of Military Affairs (DMA) to provide financial aid to eligible members of the immediate family of a member of the U.S. armed forces or the national guard who is a Wisconsin resident and who either serves on active duty or died while on active duty or in the line of duty while in training. "Immediate family" means a person who is a spouse, unremarried surviving spouse, or dependent child of a service member, and a Wisconsin resident.
- 3. Directs DMA to promulgate administrative rules establishing eligibility criteria and the amount of financial aid to be paid to military families. The rules must specify that if the immediate family receives aid under the assistance to needy veterans program (s. 45.40, Stats.), they may not receive aid from the Military Family Relief Fund for the same purpose.
- 4. Directs the Secretary of Revenue to provide a place on the individual income tax return form for designations to the Military Family Relief Fund and to certify annually the net amount in the fund after administrative costs, including data processing costs, are subtracted from the total amount received from all designations to the fund.
- 5. Transfers \$6,695 from the Veterans Trust Fund to the Military Family Relief Fund in fiscal year 2007-08, to consolidate in DMA the provision of aid to military families.

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Legislative History

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 was introduced by Representatives Molepske and Musser on August 9, 2007. In executive session on September 5, 2007, the Assembly Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs adopted the substitute amendment and recommended passage of Assembly Bill 362, as amended, on votes of Ayes, 8; and Noes, 0.

PS:ksm