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**WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
AMENDMENT MEMO**

**2013 Assembly Bill 20**

**Assembly  
Amendment 1**

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**2013 ASSEMBLY BILL 20**

2013 Assembly Bill 20 makes two changes relating to state certification of public accountants. First, under current law, the Accounting Examining Board must provide public notice of each qualifying examination held for public accountants by publishing a notice in at least one daily newspaper published in Milwaukee and at least one daily newspaper published in Madison not less than 30 days prior to the date of the examination. The bill retains the 30-day notice requirement but removes the requirement that such notice be provided by publication in certain newspapers.

Second, under current law, in order to be certified as a public accountant, a person must have received at least a bachelor's degree from an institution accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. Under the bill, in order to be certified as a public accountant, a person must have received a bachelor's degree from any institution of higher education that is accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

**ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1**

Under current law and the bill, the Accounting Examining Board must hold an examination to qualify certified public accountants at least once per year. The bill requires the Board to give public notice of an examination at least 30 days prior to the date of the examination. Assembly Amendment 1 removes the 30-day notice requirement.

**LEGISLATIVE HISTORY**

Assembly Amendment 1 to 2013 Assembly Bill 20 was introduced by Representative Kooyenga on February 25, 2013. On April 11, 2013, the Assembly Committee on Government Operations and State Licensing voted unanimously to recommend adoption of the amendment. On the same day, the committee voted unanimously to recommend passage of the bill, as amended.

AH:jal