



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2013 Senate Bill 576

**Senate
Amendment 1**

Memo published: March 11, 2014

Contact: Brian Larson, Staff Attorney (266-0680)

2013 Senate Bill 576 allows the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance (OCI) to issue to a travel insurance producer license. The license would authorize the licensee (travel insurance producer) to sell, solicit, and negotiate travel insurance through an insurer, subject to numerous requirements and conditions specified in the bill. Travel insurance is defined as limited lines insurance coverage for personal risk incident to planned travel, including trip cancellation, loss of baggage, and sickness or accident during travel. Under the bill, a travel insurance producer may, but need not be, a licensed insurance intermediary.

In addition, the bill authorizes a business entity that makes, arranges, or offers travel services (travel retailer) to offer and disseminate travel insurance on behalf of, and under the control of, a travel insurance producer, subject to the requirements and conditions specified in the bill. The travel retailer need not itself have a travel insurance producer license or be a licensed intermediary.

Senate Amendment 1 changes the standard for licensing of a travel insurance producer, so that in order to receive a travel insurance producer license, a travel insurance producer must be a licensed insurance intermediary. In addition, the amendment incorporates the terms “firm” and “firm license” into the bill, which correspond to definitions in the administrative code allowing a firm or business entity, as opposed to an individual, to become licensed as an insurance intermediary. Under the amendment, a travel retailer may only offer and disseminate travel insurance under an insurance intermediary firm license. The amendment identifies certain responsibilities of a firm, including keeping a register of each travel retailer that offers and disseminates travel insurance on the firm’s behalf.

Bill History

On March 5, 2014, the Senate Committee on Insurance and Housing voted to recommend adoption of Senate Amendment 1, and passage of the bill, as amended, on votes of Ayes, 5; and Noes, 0.

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