



2011 ASSEMBLY BILL 77

April 7, 2011 – Introduced by Representatives RADCLIFFE and DANOU. Referred to Committee on Criminal Justice and Corrections.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 302.37 (1) (a); and **to create** 302.075 of the statutes; **relating**
2 **to:** providing meals to inmates of prisons and jails.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current law requires a sheriff or other keeper of a jail to provide three meals per day to inmates. Current law does not specify how many meals per day the Department of Corrections must provide for prison inmates, but specifies that inmates must be treated humanely.

This bill allows, at his or her discretion, a sheriff or other keeper of a jail to provide two meals per day to jail inmates, unless a physician notifies the sheriff or keeper that an inmate has a medical need for more than two meals per day. Under the bill, a warden or prison superintendent may not serve more than two meals per day to prison inmates unless a physician notifies the warden or superintendent that an inmate has a medical need for more than two meals per day.

For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

3 **SECTION 1.** 302.075 of the statutes is created to read:
4 **302.075 Meals for inmates.** (1) Except as provided in sub. (2), wardens and
5 superintendents may provide no more than 2 meals daily to each inmate.

ASSEMBLY BILL 77

1 (2) A warden or superintendent may provide more than 2 meals daily to an
2 inmate if a physician notifies the warden or superintendent that the inmate has a
3 medical need for more than 2 meals daily.

4 **SECTION 2.** 302.37 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 302.37 (1) (a) The sheriff or other keeper of a jail shall constantly keep it clean
6 and in a healthful condition and pay strict attention to the personal cleanliness of
7 the prisoners and shall cause the clothing of each prisoner to be properly laundered.
8 The sheriff or keeper shall furnish each prisoner with clean water, towels, and
9 bedding. The sheriff or keeper shall serve each prisoner ~~3 times daily~~ with enough
10 well-cooked, wholesome food. The county board shall prescribe an adequate diet for
11 the prisoners in the county jail and may allow, at the discretion of the sheriff or
12 keeper, the sheriff or keeper to provide each prisoner with no more than 2 meals daily
13 unless a physician notifies the sheriff or keeper that an inmate has a medical need
14 for more than 2 meals daily.

15

(END)