

State of Misconsin 2015 - 2016 LEGISLATURE

LRB-2441/1 PJH:ahe&kjf

2015 ASSEMBLY BILL 508

November 13, 2015 – Introduced by Representatives KATSMA, HORLACHER, VORPAGEL, KREMER, GANNON, STEFFEN, R. BROOKS, THIESFELDT, MURPHY, TITTL, KLEEFISCH, A. OTT, ALLEN and ROHRKASTE, cosponsored by Senators LEMAHIEU and STROEBEL. Referred to Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety.

1 AN ACT *to amend* 968.255 (3); and *to create* 895.535 of the statutes; **relating** 2 **to:** providing immunity from civil and criminal liability to certain health care 3 providers for performing a body cavity search.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill confers immunity from civil and criminal liability for performing certain body cavity searches. Under current law, a person may be subject to a search of his or her body, including a body cavity search, when he or she is arrested for any felony, for certain misdemeanors, for any misdemeanor or civil violation if there is probable cause to believe that the person is concealing a weapon or concealing something that would constitute evidence of the offense for which he or she has been detained, or if the person will be held or detained with another person. Under current law, only a physician, physician assistant, or registered nurse may conduct a body cavity search.

This bill confers immunity from civil and criminal liability to a physician, physician assistant, or registered nurse who performs a body cavity search under the allowed circumstances. The immunity extends to the employer of the physician, physician assistant, or registered nurse, and to the health care facility where the search is conducted.

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

2015 – 2016 Legislature

ASSEMBLY BILL 508

SECTION 1. 895.535 of the statutes is created to read:
895.535 Civil and criminal liability exemption; body cavity search. (1)
Any physician, physician assistant, or registered nurse licensed to practice in this
state conducting a body cavity search pursuant to s. 968.255 is immune from any civil
or criminal liability for the act, except for civil liability for negligence in the
performance of the act.
(2) Any employer of the person under sub. (1) or any health care facility where
the search is conducted by that person has the same immunity from liability under
sub. (1).
SECTION 2. 968.255 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:
968.255 (3) No person other than a physician, physician assistant or registered
nurse licensed to practice in this state may conduct a body cavity search. \underline{A}
physician, physician assistant, or registered nurse acting under this section, the
employer of any such person, and any health care facility where the search is
<u>conducted have immunity from civil or criminal liability under s. 895.535.</u>
(END)

- 2 -