
Wisconsin Legislative Council

AMENDMENT MEMO



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2021 Assembly Bill 374

**Assembly
Amendment 1**

2021 ASSEMBLY BILL 374

2021 Assembly Bill 374 governs the settlement of opioid litigation, which is defined by the bill as the federal multidistrict litigation titled, *In re: National Prescription Opiate Litigation*, Case No. MDL 2804. Very briefly, the bill requires the attorney general to cooperate with local governments that are parties to the opiate litigation to enter into a joint settlement agreement of the legal or equitable claims of the state and local governments, if a proposed settlement agreement is approved by the Joint Committee on Finance and contains certain provisions regarding the distribution of the settlement.

The bill also specifies how money from the settlement agreement may be used, and prohibits any political subdivision of the state, or an officer or agent of a political subdivision of the state, that was not a party to the opiate litigation as of June 1, 2021, from doing any of the following:

- Maintaining a claim to the proceeds of the settlement agreement.
- Maintaining or bringing a claim related to opioids against any defendant in the opiate litigation that would be released if the political subdivision, officer, or agent were a party to the joint settlement agreement.

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1

Assembly Amendment 1 amends the definition of opioid litigation to include both the federal lawsuit and any proceeding filed in state circuit court that contains allegations and seeks relief substantially similar to the allegations contained and relief sought in Case No. MDL 2804.

BILL HISTORY

Representative Plumer offered Assembly Amendment 1 on June 22, 2021. Also, on June 22, 2021, the Assembly adopted Assembly Amendment 1 on a voice vote and passed the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 60; Noes, 38. On June 23, 2021, the Senate concurred in the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 19; Noes, 11.

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