



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

**2007 Wisconsin Act 197**  
[2007 Assembly Bill 532]

**County Employees who Regulate  
Private Sewage Systems**

### **Background**

Counties are required by statute to regulate private sewage systems. These regulatory responsibilities include the review and approval of applications for sanitary permits, the inspection of all private sewage systems after construction but before backfilling, and investigation of violations of the county private sewage system ordinance.

### **2007 Wisconsin Act 197**

2007 Wisconsin Act 197 applies a restriction to county employees who have responsibilities related to private sewage systems. These employees may not conduct any soil testing (other than review of soil tester reports for private sewage system installations), install, maintain, or repair sewage systems, sell private sewage systems, or prepare designs for private sewage systems.

The restriction created by the Act, as described above, does not apply to activities performed by a county employee on property owned by that employee if the property is located outside of the county for which the individual works. Also, the restriction on county employees applies in the county in which the employee is employed or in an adjacent county. As a result, the county employee could do work related to private sewage systems beyond those counties.

***Effective Date:*** November 1, 2008

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/>.