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## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

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**2007 Wisconsin Act 22**  
[2007 Assembly Bill 63]

**Recognition of Veterans**

Wisconsin Act 22 includes the following provisions relating to veterans:

- Under the statutes, ***Hire a Veteran Week*** is established to recognize the contributions veterans have made to our society and the special needs of unemployed veterans and to encourage the hiring of unemployed veterans. The Governor is required to issue annually a suitable proclamation for the observance of Hire a Veteran Week encouraging all employers to hire veterans. Under the statutes that existed prior to Act 22, Hire a Veteran Week was the second week of November. Under Act 22, Hire a Veteran Week will be the week of November that starts on Sunday and ends on Saturday and in which November 11 falls.
- Act 22 states that to recognize the contribution and sacrifices veterans have made to our society, including those who have given their lives in service, the seven-day period that ends on November 11 is designated ***Veteran Recognition Week***. The Governor is required to issue annually a suitable proclamation for the observance of Veteran Recognition Week encouraging all citizens to honor veterans during the week, emphasizing educational efforts directed at teaching students concerning the contributions and sacrifices of veterans.
- Act 22 requires the state Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) to award a ***certificate of achievement*** in appreciation to any veteran who completes 20 hours of ***volunteer service in a public or private school*** during a school term. In order for a certificate to be awarded, all of the following requirements must be met: (1) the volunteer service must consist of classroom service that involves direct interaction with pupils, with an emphasis on sharing the lessons that the veteran learned from his or her military experience; (2) the veteran must not be an employee of the school or school district during the term in which the volunteer service takes place; and (3) by July 1 after the school term in which the volunteer service takes place, the veteran must submit to DVA a form signed by the school principal or school district administrator verifying that the veteran fulfilled the 20 hours of volunteer service.

***Effective Date:*** November 24, 2007

***Prepared by:*** Richard Sweet, Senior Staff Attorney

November 26, 2007

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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/>.