



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2009 Wisconsin Act 299
[2009 Assembly Bill 228]

**Preferences for Businesses Owned
by Disabled Veterans**

2009 Wisconsin Act 299 creates preferences in awarding state contracts or orders to businesses owned by disabled veterans who have at least a 30% disability rating from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The Act permits acceptance of a qualified responsible bid from a disabled veteran-owned business that is no more than 5% higher than the apparent low bid or most advantageous proposal. The preferences are similar to those currently available to minority-owned businesses, but the Act does not create any goals for total amounts or percentages of state contracts or orders to be awarded to the disabled veteran-owned businesses. If a business is both disabled veteran-owned and minority-owned, the preferences cannot be “stacked” and only a single 5% preference applies.

Act 299 directs the Department of Commerce to promulgate rules to implement provisions of the Act.

Effective date: The creation of s. 560.033, Stats., which establishes the preference for disabled veteran-owned businesses, takes effect on May 27, 2010. The remaining provisions take effect on November 1, 2010.

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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/>.