



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

**2003 Assembly Bill 797**

**Assembly  
Amendments 1 and 2**

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Under *current law*, pawnbrokers and secondhand dealers who purchase, receive, and exchange certain articles must be licensed by the county or by the city, town, or village in which they operate. Currently, these articles include china, computers, electronic equipment, and small electrical appliances.

*The bill* requires pawnbrokers and secondhand dealers who conduct transactions involving prerecorded video tapes or disks, audio tapes or disks, or other optical media to also obtain a license.

*Assembly Amendment 1* removes the limitation that these items must be prerecorded so that dealers conducting transactions involving any video tapes or disks, audio tapes or disks, or other optical media must be licensed.

Under *current law*, a county or municipality must issue a license to a pawnbroker or secondhand dealer if, among other requirements, the applicant for the license has not been convicted within the last 10 years of a felony or within the last five years of a misdemeanor, statutory violation punishable by a forfeiture, or county or municipal ordinance violation in which the circumstances of the conviction or violation substantially relate to the circumstances of being a pawnbroker or secondhand dealer.

Under *the bill*, the county or municipality must consider whether the applicant has been convicted of a felony within the last 20 years or of a misdemeanor within the last 10 years.

*Assembly Amendment 2* provides that the county or municipality must consider whether the applicant has been convicted of a felony within the last 10 years, as provided under current law.

Assembly Amendments 1 and 2 were offered by the Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice. The committee voted unanimously to recommend adoption of both amendments and to recommend passage of the bill, as amended, on February 25, 2004.

AS:tlu

