

WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2005 Assembly Bill 341		Assembly Amendments 1 and 2
Memo published: January 24, 2006	Contact:	Richard Sweet, Senior Staff Attorney (266-2982)

Assembly Bill 341 requires the state to offer all of its employees the option of receiving health care coverage through a high-deductible health plan and the establishment of a health savings account (HSA) as described in federal law. Under this option, the state is required to provide each employee with health care coverage through a high-deductible plan and to make annual contributions into each employee's HSA that are equal to the difference between the state's share of the annual premium for the high-deductible plan and the state's share of the annual premium for the lowest tier plan that is available in the county in which the employee resides. The bill requires the Secretary of the Department of Employee Trust Funds to promulgate rules, with the approval of the Group Insurance Board, for the administration of the HSA option.

Assembly Amendment 1 provides that the state's contribution into each employee's HSA is equal to the lesser of the following: (1) the difference between the state's share of the annual premium for the high-deductible plan and the state's share of the annual premium for the lowest tier plan that is available in the county in which the employee resides; or (2) the maximum contribution allowed under federal law.

Assembly Amendment 2 makes the state's contribution into the HSA discretionary rather than mandatory.

<u>Legislative History</u>

On January 10, 2006, the Assembly Committee on Health recommended adoption of Assembly Amendments 1 and 2, and passage of the bill as amended, all by votes of Ayes, 8; Noes, 5.

RNS:jal