



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

**2005 Assembly Bill 793**

**Assembly Amendments  
1, 2, 3, and 4**

*Memo published:* March 21, 2006

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*Assembly Amendment 1* deletes from the bill those provisions directing local governments to interpret liberally their historic structure regulations in order to facilitate the preservation and restoration of historic buildings and structures.

*Assembly Amendment 2* provides that a person who has received permission from a city, village, or town under s. 66.0425, Stats., may, in a business area under the state main street program or in a certified downtown area, erect awning or other signage that projects from a building over a sidewalk as long as the awning or signage does not encroach upon the traveled portion of a highway and provides adequate clearance for equipment used to maintain or clear the sidewalks of snow or debris. Under the amendment, if the Department of Transportation (DOT) removes the awning or signage in connection with a state highway project, the owner is not eligible for compensation for the removal, damage, or loss of the sign.

*Assembly Amendment 3* deletes provisions in the bill:

1. Requiring DOT, in connection with a major highway project that involves a bypass, if certain action is taken by a municipality, to design and construct an “active bypass,” as defined in the bill.
2. Requiring DOT to consult on issues concerning proposed downtown highway projects and their effect on businesses in the area.
3. Requiring DOT to give priority to retaining on-street parking in connection with highway widening projects in downtown areas.
4. Requiring DOT to fund, in connection with providing matching funds for local highway projects, the construction of any highway lane in a downtown area without regard to whether the lane is a travel lane or a parking lane.

*Assembly Amendment 4* deletes the provision in the bill requiring the State Historical Society, upon request of a qualified historic building owner, to review and issue an advisory opinion on whether certain decisions of the Department of Commerce, or a local government acting as an agent, that relate to the state historic building code, variances under the code, or inspection of a building for compliance with the code are in fact consistent with the code.

**Legislative History**

All four amendments were offered by Representative Shilling; each amendment was recommended for adoption by the Assembly Committee on Urban and Local Affairs by a vote of Ayes, 8; Noes, 0. The committee recommended the proposal, as amended, for passage by a vote of Ayes, 7; Noes, 1.

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