



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

**2009 Assembly Bill 546**

**Assembly Substitute  
Amendment 1**

*Memo published:* March 26, 2010

*Contact:* Melissa Schmidt, Staff Attorney (266-2298)

### **Current Law**

Under current law, a governmental body is required to give public notice under ch. 19, Stats., of all meetings at least 24 hours prior to commencement of the meetings, unless for good cause, it is impossible or impracticable to do so. In no case may notice be provided less than two hours in advance of the meeting.

When giving public notice, a governmental body is also required to give notice to news media who have filed a written request for the notice as well as the governmental body's official newspaper. If an official newspaper does not exist, then the governmental body must give notice to news media likely to give notice in the area.

### **2009 Assembly Bill 546**

**2009 Assembly Bill 546** (hereinafter, "the bill") requires a city, village, town, or county that has a Web site to post the following on its Web site:

- Public notice of every meeting of the city, village, town, or county at least 24 hours prior to commencement of the meetings, unless it is impossible or impractical to do so. In no case may notice be posted on the Web site less than two hours in advance of the meetings.
- The minutes relating to the city, village, town, or county's meeting as soon as possible after the conclusion of the meeting, but only to the extent that the minutes reflect any business conducted during the open session of the meeting.

### **Assembly Substitute Amendment 1**

**Assembly Substitute Amendment 1** (ASA1) makes the following two changes to the bill:

- Removes the requirement that minutes be posted on the city, village, town, or county's Web site.
- States that if a town may comply with the public notice requirement by posting notice in ***three public places*** instead of giving public notice in a newspaper or other media, the town may comply with the posting requirements by posting public notice in ***two public places, one being the town hall, if the town also posts the public notice on its Web site.***

### **Legislative History**

On February 10, 2010, Representative Roys introduced ASA1. On February 24, 2010, the Assembly Committee on Urban and Local Affairs adopted ASA1 by a vote of Ayes, 8; Noes, 0; Absent, 1. The committee recommended passage of the bill, as amended by a vote of Ayes, 5; Noes, 3; Absent, 1.

MS:ty