



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2009 Senate Bill 226

**Senate
Amendments 1 and 2**

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Contact: Richard Sweet, Senior Staff Attorney (266-2982)
Pam Shannon, Senior Staff Attorney (266-2680)

Senate Bill 226 recodifies ch. 166, Stats., and also makes changes in laws dealing with liability and licensure of volunteers, agricultural issues, computation of school days, hospital variances, public works mutual assistance, and emergencies related to computer or telecommunication systems.

Senate Amendment 1, in addition to making a technical correction in the bill, makes the following changes:

- Senate Bill 226 modifies statutes relating to computation of school days, to account for days on which school is closed by order of the Department of Health Services (DHS), and days on which school is closed by order of a school district administrator because of a threat to health or safety. *Senate Amendment 1* requires the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to promulgate rules establishing criteria for waiving the requirement to schedule at least the number of hours of direct pupil instruction specified by statute if school is closed by order of the local health officer or DHS, or is closed by order of the school district administrator because of a threat to health or safety.

- Current law provides state indemnification to health care providers and others who volunteer during an emergency or at a mass clinic. Under current law, a veterinarian is included within the definition of “health care provider.” Senate Bill 226 creates a separate category of “veterinary provider,” which includes both veterinarians and veterinary technicians. *Senate Amendment 1* restores veterinarians under the category of “health care provider,” and adds veterinary technicians to that category.

Senate Amendment 2 includes clinical laboratory technicians in the provision relating to state indemnification of volunteer providers.

Legislative History

The Senate Committee on Small Business, Emergency Preparedness, Technical Colleges, and Consumer Protection recommended adoption of Senate Amendment 1, and passage of the bill as amended, both by votes of Ayes, 5; Noes, 0.

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