



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2013 Senate Bill 629	Senate Amendment 1
<i>Memo published: March 12, 2014</i>	<i>Contact: David L. Lovell, Principal Analyst (266-1537)</i>

2013 Senate Bill 629 relates to substance abuse by persons working on public utility projects in public rights-of-way.

Current law prohibits substance abuse and related activities by persons working on certain public works projects in public rights-of-way. Current law also requires a contractor or subcontractor working on such projects to have in place substance abuse prevention programs meeting specified criteria. Finally, a contractor or subcontractor working on such a project must remove any impaired worker from the project. A worker who has been removed may return to the project upon meeting specified conditions.

2013 Senate Bill 629 extends these provisions of current law to employers and employees performing work on public utility projects in public rights-of-way.¹ The bill applies to projects of public utilities and cooperatives.

Senate Amendment 1 exempts cooperatives from the requirement to have a substance abuse prevention program in place, but applies the prohibition to on-the-job substance abuse and the requirement that an employer remove an impaired employee from a work site to projects of cooperatives.

Bill History

On March 10, 2014, the Senate Committee on Government Operations, Public Works, and Telecommunications voted to recommend adoption of Senate Amendment 1 to 2013 Senate Bill 629 and passage of the bill, as amended, on votes of Ayes, 7; and Noes, 0.

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¹ The bill also includes provisions affecting the state law requiring drivers to move over or slow down when passing certain emergency vehicles and tow trucks. The amendment does not affect these provisions of the bill.