

To:

Members, Joint Committee on Finance

From:

R.J. Pirlot & Caty McDermott

Date:

April 20, 2017

Subject:

Dual Employment Restriction Exemption for Certain Health Care

Professionals Administration – General Provisions Legislative Fiscal Summary, item 15, page 31

Governor Walker proposes to eliminate an existing prohibition on state employees who are certain health care professionals from holding a full-time position with one state agency and another position with another state agency or authority. Here is the relevant language from the Legislative Fiscal Bureau's plain-language summary of the Governor's budget recommendations:

Exempt a health care professional who is employed or retained in a full-time position or capacity with an agency or authority and who holds another position or is retained in any other capacity with a different agency or authority for less than 1,040 hours during any 12-month period from the current law dual employment restriction. Define a health care professional as a registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, a physician licensed to practice medicine and surgery, or a psychologist.

Under current law, state employees who hold a full-time position with a state agency or authority are generally prohibited from holding a position or being retained in any other capacity by another state agency or authority from which the individual receives, directly or indirectly, more than \$12,000 as compensation for the individual's services during the same year. The administration indicates that the provisions under the bill would allow the state mental health institutes to retain University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics employees on a limited-term employment basis for services provided at the state mental health institutes.

Request: add "physician assistant" the definition of health care professionals for the purposes of this restriction exemption. Many PAs, for example, work at the UW Hospital and Clinics and they, too, would like to have the ability, within their existing scope of practice and existing certifications, to have the opportunity to work on a limited-term basis with other state agencies and authorities.