Wisconsin Legislative Council AMENDMENT MEMO



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2023 Assembly Joint Resolution 6

Assembly Amendment 1 and Senate Amendment 1

Current statutes authorize the Governor to accept federal moneys on behalf of the state and to stipulate conditions on the acceptance of funds as necessary to safeguard the interests of the state. Generally, the Governor must designate a state agency to receive such funds, and the statutes require that agency to administer the funds pursuant to federal law. However, the Joint Committee on Finance must approve any transfer or expenditure of funds received under a block grant, as specified in the statutes.

2023 Assembly Joint Resolution 6

2023 Assembly Joint Resolution 6 (AJR 6) proposes that an amendment to the State Constitution be submitted to a vote of the people, at the election to be held on the first Tuesday of April 2024, in two questions, as follows:

- Shall Article IV, Section 35 (1) of the Wisconsin Constitution be created to provide that the Legislature may not delegate its sole power to determine how moneys shall be appropriated?
- Shall Article IV, Section 35 (2) of the Wisconsin Constitution be created to prohibit the Governor from allocating any federal moneys the Governor accepts on behalf of the state without the approval of the Legislature by joint resolution or as provided by legislative rule?

This proposed constitutional amendment was first considered by the Legislature in 2021 Senate Joint Resolution 84, which became 2021 Enrolled Joint Resolution 14.

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1

Assembly Amendment 1 (AA 1) to AJR 6 provides that the proposed amendment to the State Constitution will be submitted to a vote of the people at the election to be held on the first Tuesday of April 2024 (in contrast to April 2023, under the resolution, as introduced).

SENATE AMENDMENT 1

Senate Amendment 1 (SA 1) to AJR 6 provides that the proposed amendment to the State Constitution will be submitted to a vote of the people at the election to be held on the first Tuesday of November 2024 (in contrast to April 2024, under the resolution, as affected by AA 1).

BILL HISTORY

On February 6, 2023, Representative Wittke introduced AJR 6. On March 30, 2023, the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means recommended adoption of AJR 6 on a vote of Ayes, 7; Noes, 4. On September 6, 2023, Representative Wittke offered AA 1 to AJR 6. On September 12, 2023, the Assembly adopted AA 1, on a voice vote, and passed AJR 6, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 63; Noes, 35. On

January 31, 2024, Senator Marklein offered SA 1. On February 5, 2024, the Senate Committee on Universities and Revenue recommended adoption of SA 1, and passage of AJR 6, as amended, on votes of Ayes, 5; Noes, 3.

For a full history of the bill, visit the Legislature's <u>bill history page</u>.

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