



22 EAST MIFFLIN STREET, SUITE 900  
MADISON, WI 53703  
TOLL FREE: 1.866.404.2700  
PHONE: 608.663.7188  
FAX: 608.663.7189  
[www.wicounties.org](http://www.wicounties.org)

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Honorable Members of the Assembly Committee on Licensing Reform

**FROM:** Daniel Bahr, Government Affairs Associate

**DATE:** January 18, 2018

**SUBJECT:** Support for Assembly Bill 483

The Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) supports Assembly Bill (AB) 483, relating to elimination of the Building Inspector Review Board and the Contractor Certification Council and requiring that the Uniform Dwelling Code Council review complaints regarding the inspection of one-family or two-family dwelling construction.

AB 483 both streamlines and provides efficiency in the complainant review process for one-family and two-family dwelling construction. In addition to the efficiencies provided, Assembly Amendment 2 to AB 483 clarifies language regarding religious exemptions for indoor plumbing and the classification of a Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (POWTS). The amendment is supported by both WCA and the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS).

The intent of the amendment is to ensure that a POWTS is not classified as indoor plumbing via legal interpretation and thus not subject to a religious exemption. In consultation with DSPS, it is our view that this amendment will correct the overly broad language originally crafted (2015 Act 55) without the intention of granting religious exemptions for POWTS.

WCA respectfully requests that the committee support AB 483 and Assembly Amendment 2.

Please feel free to contact WCA if you need additional information.