



Department of Administration  
Intergovernmental Relations Division

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**2015-2016 Legislative Session**

**AB 537 / SB 533 Related to: forfeiture of property seized in relation to a crime**

The City of Milwaukee is in support of increased accountability in the asset forfeiture program at both the State and Federal levels. The City of Milwaukee has also instituted several local accountability measures into the program.

Regardless, the City of Milwaukee is concerned with several components of the bill. Therefore, the City would like to see the following changes to AB 537 / SB 521:

- 1) Remove the requirement that all funds be transferred into the statewide school fund.
  - a. Retain the current formula that requires transferring a portion of asset forfeiture funds into the state school fund OR consider developing a new formula that transfers a portion of the asset forfeiture funds into programs that work directly in communities most impacted by the asset forfeiture program.
- 2) Remove the prohibition on local law enforcement to utilize seized vehicles.
- 3) Remove the prohibition on participating in the Federal asset forfeiture program if the value of the property does not exceed \$50,000.
- 4) Remove language that requires the return of property before an investigation is complete.

For more information, please contact:

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