

1       **AN ACT** *to amend* 166.05 (1) (title); and *to create* 166.05 (1m) of the statutes;  
 2           **relating to:** the emergency seat of government.

*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

**JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PREFATORY NOTE:** This bill was prepared for the joint legislative council’s special committee on emergency management and continuity of government.

Under current law, whenever during a state of emergency it becomes imprudent, inexpedient, or impossible to conduct the affairs of state government at the state capitol, the governor is required to designate an emergency temporary location for the seat of government and to take such action and issue such orders as are necessary for an orderly transition of the affairs of state government to that location. While the seat of government remains at a temporary location, all official acts required by law to be performed at the seat of government are as valid and binding when performed at the temporary location as if performed at the normal location.

This bill allows the legislature, by joint rule, to provide a process for designating an emergency temporary seat of government for the legislature that is different than the location designated by the governor. Under the bill, whenever during a state of emergency it becomes imprudent, inexpedient, or impossible to conduct the business of the legislature at the state capitol, the legislature may meet either at the location designated by the governor or the location designated by the legislature itself. Information about this location is not subject to inspection or copying under the open records law.

3           **SECTION 1.** 166.05 (1) (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

4           166.05 (1) (title) DESIGNATION OF EMERGENCY TEMPORARY LOCATION BY THE GOVERNOR.

5           **SECTION 2.** 166.05 (1m) of the statutes is created to read:

6           166.05 (1m) DESIGNATION OF ALTERNATIVE EMERGENCY TEMPORARY LOCATION BY THE  
 7       LEGISLATURE. The legislature, by joint rule, may provide a process for designating an  
 8       emergency temporary seat of government for the legislature that is different than the location

1 under sub. (1). Whenever, during a state of emergency it becomes imprudent, inexpedient,  
2 or impossible to conduct the business of the legislature at the state capitol, the legislature may  
3 meet at the location under sub. (1) or the location designated under this subsection.  
4 Information about the location under this subsection is not subject to inspection or copying  
5 under s. 19.35 (1).

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(END)