



State of Wisconsin  
2017 - 2018 LEGISLATURE

LRB-4477/1  
CMH:amn

## 2017 ASSEMBLY BILL 597

October 27, 2017 - Introduced by Representatives HEBL, C. TAYLOR, ANDERSON, BERCEAU, BILLINGS, FIELDS, GENRICH, HESSELBEIN, KOLSTE, OHNSTAD, POPE, SARGENT, SINICKI, SPREITZER, SUBECK and ZAMARRIPA, cosponsored by Senators JOHNSON, SHILLING, CARPENTER and LARSON. Referred to Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety.

\*\*\*AUTHORS SUBJECT TO CHANGE\*\*\*

1     **AN ACT to renumber** 941.29 (1g) (a) and 971.17 (1g); **to amend** 973.176 (1); and  
2           **to create** 941.29 (1g) (ah), 941.29 (1m) (ag), 941.29 (1m) (cm), 971.17 (1g) (b)  
3           and 973.136 of the statutes; **relating to:** the possession of a firearm by a person  
4           who has committed a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence and providing  
5           a criminal penalty.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Current law prohibits a person from possessing a firearm if he or she has been convicted of a felony, found not guilty of a felony by reason of mental disease or defect, or adjudicated delinquent for an act that if committed by an adult in this state would be a felony. Federal law prohibits a person who is convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence from possessing a firearm. Under this bill, following a conviction, or a finding of not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect, for a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence, state law also prohibits the person from possessing a firearm. A person who violates the prohibition is guilty of a felony and is subject to a fine of up to \$25,000 or a term of imprisonment of up to ten years, or both.

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For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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

1           **SECTION 1.** 941.29 (1g) (a) of the statutes is renumbered 941.29 (1g) (at).

2           **SECTION 2.** 941.29 (1g) (ah) of the statutes is created to read:

3           941.29 **(1g)** (ah) “Misdemeanor crime of domestic violence” has the meaning  
4 given in s. 973.136 (1) (c).

5           **SECTION 3.** 941.29 (1m) (ag) of the statutes is created to read:

6           941.29 **(1m)** (ag) The person has been convicted on or after the effective date  
7 of this paragraph .... [LRB inserts date], of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence.

8           **SECTION 4.** 941.29 (1m) (cm) of the statutes is created to read:

9           941.29 **(1m)** (cm) The person has been found not guilty by reason of mental  
10 disease or defect on or after the effective date of this paragraph .... [LRB inserts date],  
11 of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence.

12           **SECTION 5.** 971.17 (1g) of the statutes is renumbered 971.17 (1g) (a).

13           **SECTION 6.** 971.17 (1g) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

14           971.17 **(1g)** (b) 1. In this paragraph, “misdemeanor crime of domestic violence”  
15 has the meaning given in s. 973.136 (1) (c).

16           2. If the defendant under sub. (1) is found not guilty by reason of mental disease  
17 or defect of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence, the court shall enter a finding  
18 to that effect in the record for purposes of determining whether the person is  
19 prohibited from possessing a firearm under s. 941.29 and shall inform the defendant  
20 of the requirements and penalties under s. 941.29.

21           **SECTION 7.** 973.136 of the statutes is created to read:

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1           **973.136 Prohibition for certain misdemeanor crimes. (1)** In this section:

2           (a) “Dating relationship” means a romantic or intimate social relationship  
3 between 2 individuals but “dating relationship” does not include a casual  
4 relationship or an ordinary fraternization between 2 individuals in a business or  
5 social context. A court shall determine if a dating relationship existed by considering  
6 the length of the relationship, the type of the relationship, and the frequency of the  
7 interaction between the individuals involved in the relationship.

8           (b) “Family member” has the meaning given in s. 813.12 (1) (b).

9           (c) “Misdemeanor crime of domestic violence” means any of the following:

10           1. A violation or attempted violation of s. 940.19 (1), 940.195 (1), 940.225 (3m),  
11 or 941.20 (1) when committed by an adult family member against another family  
12 member, by an adult against his or her former spouse, by an adult against a person  
13 with whom the adult has or had a dating relationship, or by an adult against a person  
14 with whom the adult has a child in common.

15           2. A violation of s. 947.01 in which the adult actor engaged in violent or abusive  
16 conduct to harm, intimidate, or threaten a person who is the adult actor’s family  
17 member, the adult actor’s former spouse, a person with whom the adult actor has or  
18 had a dating relationship, or a person with whom the adult actor has a child in  
19 common.

20           3. A misdemeanor, except a misdemeanor listed in subd. 1. or 2., committed by  
21 an adult family member against another family member, by an adult against his or  
22 her former spouse, by an adult against a person with whom the adult has or had a  
23 dating relationship, or by an adult against a person with whom the adult has a child  
24 in common, if the court has increased the maximum term of imprisonment under s.  
25 939.63 (1) (a).

