



State of Wisconsin
2023 - 2024 LEGISLATURE

LRB-4857/1
EVM:skw

2023 SENATE BILL 753

December 8, 2023 - Introduced by Senators JAMES, BALLWEG, COWLES, MARKLEIN and SPREITZER, cosponsored by Representatives BROOKS, ROZAR, BRANDTJEN, DITTRICH, EDMING, GUNDRUM, HURD, JACOBSON, MURSAU, PENTERMAN and SCHMIDT. Referred to Committee on Transportation and Local Government.

1 **AN ACT** *to renumber and amend* 82.08 (5) and 84.18 (8); and *to create* 82.08
2 (5) (b) and 84.18 (8) (b) of the statutes; **relating to:** supervision of local bridge
3 projects funded under certain local bridge maintenance programs.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Department of Transportation administers a local bridge program to reconstruct and rehabilitate seriously deteriorating local bridges (local bridge program). Under the program, political subdivisions apply to the county in which they are located for placement on the county's list of projects under the program. DOT allocates funds to counties based on the ratio between the estimated cost of reconstructing or rehabilitating qualifying bridges in that county and the estimated cost of reconstructing or rehabilitating qualifying bridges in the state. DOT supervises the construction of projects under the program and provides 80 percent of the project's costs with local funds providing the other 20 percent.

Also under current law, a town that has voted to construct or repair a bridge or culvert on a highway maintained by the town may petition the county in which the town is located for shared funding of the project (county bridge aid). With certain exceptions, upon an adequate petition, the county must pay one-half of the cost of construction or repair. In general, the county highway committee and the town board supervise projects under this program.

This bill specifies that county bridge aid may be used to fund the local share of a local bridge program project and that, if county bridge aid is used for this purpose, DOT supervises the project.

