



## 1997 ASSEMBLY BILL 727

January 20, 1998 – Introduced by Representatives LADWIG, TURNER and J. LEHMAN, cosponsored by Senator PLACHE. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

1     **AN ACT to amend** 281.65 (2) (c) and 281.65 (3m) (a); and **to create** 281.65 (4) (co)  
2             of the statutes; **relating to:** designating the Root River watershed as a priority  
3             watershed for the nonpoint source water pollution abatement program.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Under the nonpoint source water pollution abatement program, this state provides financial assistance for measures that reduce water pollution from nonpoint (diffuse) sources, including measures to control storm water discharges in watersheds that are identified as priority watersheds.

This bill identifies the Root River watershed as a priority watershed for the nonpoint source water pollution abatement program. The bill also requires the department of natural resources to allocate \$600,000 in fiscal year 1998–99 to municipalities that are required to obtain storm water discharge permits for nonpoint source program activities in the Root River watershed.

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

4             **SECTION 1.** 281.65 (2) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:  
5             281.65 (2) (c) “Priority watershed” means any watershed that is identified  
6             under sub. (3) (am) or (4) (cm) or (co).

**ASSEMBLY BILL 727**

1           **SECTION 2.** 281.65 (3m) (a) of the statutes, as created by 1997 Wisconsin Act  
2 27, is amended to read:

3           281.65 **(3m)** (a) 1. No later than July 1, 1998, the board shall identify priority  
4 watersheds based on the list submitted under sub. (4) (c) and recommendations by  
5 the department and the department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection  
6 without regard to any priority watershed designations made before the board acts  
7 under this subdivision, except for priority watershed designations under sub. (4)  
8 (cm) or (co). The department and the department of agriculture, trade and consumer  
9 protection shall limit the number of watersheds that they recommend to the board  
10 to the number that they determine will enable the department to comply with sub.  
11 (4) (g) 9., assuming that the level of funding for the program under this section  
12 remains the same as on October 14, 1997.

13           2. If a watershed is designated as a priority watershed before the board acts  
14 under subd. 1. and the board does not identify the watershed as a priority watershed  
15 under subd. 1., the board shall terminate the watershed's designation as a priority  
16 watershed. This subdivision does not apply to priority watershed designations made  
17 under sub. (4) (cm) or (co).

18           **SECTION 3.** 281.65 (4) (co) of the statutes is created to read:

19           281.65 **(4)** (co) Identify the Root River watershed as a priority watershed.

20           **SECTION 4. Nonstatutory provisions.**

21           (1) NONPOINT SOURCE POINT WATER POLLUTION FUNDING FOR ROOT RIVER  
22 WATERSHED. The department of natural resources shall allocate a total of \$600,000  
23 in fiscal year 1998-99 from the appropriation under section 20.370 (6) (aa) of the  
24 statutes or the appropriation under section 20.370 (6) (aq) of the statutes or both  
25 appropriations to municipalities that are required to obtain a permit under section

