



2005 ASSEMBLY BILL 886

December 20, 2005 - Introduced by Representatives ALBERS, MUSSER and HINES.
Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

1 **AN ACT to create** 23.0917 (4) (cm) 4., 23.0917 (4) (d) 4. and 23.0917 (4r) of the
2 **statutes; relating to:** the use of stewardship funds for the acquisition of land
3 or development rights in land around certain military bases or installations.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current law authorizes the state to incur public debt for certain conservation activities under the Warren Knowles-Gaylord Nelson Stewardship 2000 Program (stewardship program), which is administered by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Current law grants the state the authority to bond for various conservation purposes under the stewardship program. One of the subprograms under the stewardship program is for property development and local assistance. Bonding under the property development and local acquisition subprogram may be used only for nature-based outdoor recreation, as defined in rules promulgated by DNR, with limited exceptions.

This bill creates an additional exception by allowing DNR to use award grants to towns and counties under this subprogram to acquire land or development rights that are located next to certain military bases for the purpose of keeping the land free of development. To be eligible for a grant, a base commanding officer must make a recommendation to keep the land free of development to the town or county and the town or county must approve the acquisition for that purpose. To be eligible for a grant, the military base affected must have at least 200 assigned military personnel or must contain at least 2,000 acres.

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The bill requires DNR to give the highest priority to these grants under the property development and local assistance subprogram. The bill prohibits the acquisition of land if the development rights are not included in the acquisition. Under the bill, matching funding is not required for these grants, and DNR may not award a grant if federal funding is available to the town or county for the acquisition.

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

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

1 **SECTION 1.** 23.0917 (4) (cm) 4. of the statutes is created to read:

2 23.0917 (4) (cm) 4. Grants for the acquisition of land around a military base
3 or installation under sub. (4r).

4 **SECTION 2.** 23.0917 (4) (d) 4. of the statutes is created to read:

5 23.0917 (4) (d) 4. In obligating moneys under the subprogram for property
6 development and local assistance, the department shall give the highest priority for
7 grants under sub. (4r).

8 **SECTION 3.** 23.0917 (4r) of the statutes is created to read:

9 23.0917 (4r) GRANTS FOR LAND ACQUISITION NEAR MILITARY BASES. (a) In this
10 subsection:

11 1. Notwithstanding, s. 23.0917 (1) (d), "land" means land in fee simple.

12 2. "Military base or installation" means a military base or installation that has
13 at least 200 assigned military personnel or that contains at least 2,000 acres.

14 (b) Subject to par. (c), the department may award grants to towns or counties
15 for the acquisition of land or development rights in land for the purpose of keeping
16 the land free from future development if the land abuts a military base or installation
17 and if all of the following apply:

