



State of Wisconsin
2023 - 2024 LEGISLATURE

LRB-5967/1
EHS:skw

2023 ASSEMBLY BILL 1179

March 22, 2024 - Introduced by Representatives SHANKLAND, RATCLIFF, BARE, EMERSON, JOERS, MOORE OMOKUNDE, SINICKI and STUBBS, cosponsored by Senators SMITH, AGARD, L. JOHNSON, LARSON and SPREITZER. Referred to Committee on Rural Development.

1 **AN ACT to renumber** 196.504 (1) (ad) and 196.504 (1) (ae); and **to create** 196.504
2 (1) (af) and 196.504 (2) (c) 1. i. of the statutes; **relating to:** prioritizing certain
3 farm projects under the broadband expansion grant program.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Public Service Commission makes grants to eligible applicants for the purpose of constructing broadband infrastructure in underserved areas. In making the grants, current law requires PSC to give priority to projects that satisfy various requirements. This bill requires PSC to also give priority to projects that expand fiber optic broadband lines to farms. The bill defines “farm” as land primarily devoted to agricultural uses related to crop and animal production that are referenced in a rule promulgated by the Department of Revenue.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** 196.504 (1) (ad) of the statutes is renumbered 196.504 (1) (ah).
5 **SECTION 2.** 196.504 (1) (ae) of the statutes is renumbered 196.504 (1) (ak).
6 **SECTION 3.** 196.504 (1) (af) of the statutes is created to read:

