



2011 SENATE BILL 26

March 1, 2011 – Introduced by Senator HARSDORF, cosponsored by Representatives KNUDSON, MURTHA and SEVERSON. Referred to Committee on Transportation and Elections.

1 **AN ACT** *to repeal* 84.016 (3); and *to amend* 84.016 (2) of the statutes; **relating**
2 **to:** bonding authority for major interstate bridge projects.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current law authorizes the state to contract public debt in an amount not to exceed \$225,000,000, in the form of general obligation bonds, for purposes of funding major interstate bridge projects. A major interstate bridge project is defined to mean “a project involving the construction or reconstruction of a bridge on the state trunk highway system, including approaches, that crosses a river forming a boundary of the state and for which this state’s estimated cost share is at least \$100,000,000.” Under current law, the Department of Transportation may not encumber or expend any funds collected under this bonding authorization unless the state receives federal funds that are designated by the federal government for a major interstate bridge project and that cover at least \$75,000,000 of the state’s share of the project’s cost.

This bill eliminates the requirement that the state receive federal funds covering a portion of the project’s cost before expending or encumbering funds collected under the bonding authorization.

For further information see the *state* 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:

