Fiscal Estimate - 2017 Session

☑ Original ☐ Updated	Corrected Suppler	nental					
LRB Number 17-4107/1	Introduction Number SB-387	7					
Description Limiting the authority of local governments to regulate development on substandard lots and require the merging of lots; requiring a political subdivision to issue a conditional use permit under certain circumstances; standards for granting certain zoning variances; local ordinances related to repair, rebuilding, and maintenance of certain nonconforming structures; shoreland zoning of, and the removal of material from the bed of, certain small, private ponds; inverse condemnation proceedings; and the right to display the flag of the United States.							
Appropriations Reve	ease Existing enues rease Existing enues To absorb within agend enues Decrease Costs						
Local: No Local Government Costs Indeterminate 1. Increase Costs Permissive Mandatory 2. Decrease Costs 4. Decrease Revenue Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory Districts School Districts							
Fund Sources Affected	Affected Ch. 20 Appropriat	ions					
GPR FED PRO PRS SEG SEGS							
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date					
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives CTS 11/6/2017

TERB Number 17-410771 Introduction Number 5B-387 Testimate Type Original	LRB Number	17-4107/1	Introduction Number	SB-387	Estimate Type	Original
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Description

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Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill makes various changes to local government authority, to the procedures and requirements for claims under eminent domain and for inverse condemnation proceedings (among other changes).

Among the changes that impact the court system are the following: 1) it amends the court procedures for commencing an action for inverse condemnation; 2) it defines the factors a court must consider in evaluating a claim for inverse condemnation; 3) it requires the court to issue an order in a claim for inverse condemnation if certain findings are made and describes what relief the court is required to order; 4) it establishes new definitions, standards and procedures for the issuance and review of conditional use permits; and 5) it defines and proscribes various types of evidence, such as "substantial evidence," that have typically been developed and defined in case law.

The number of court cases involving the issues of condemnation, eminent domain and inverse condemnation is not substantial. For the three calendar years of 2014-2016, an average of 103 cases that the parties labeled "Condemnation Review" were filed in Wisconsin circuit courts. (Another average of 450 cases labeled "Appeal of Municipal Court Judgment" or "Administrative Agency Review" were filed each year. It is quite plausible that some of those cases would also be impacted by this bill.)

While not significant in number, these cases can be among the more complicated faced by circuit courts, which is reflected in the length of time it takes to resolve them.

The median age at disposition of cases labeled "Condemnation Review" for the years 2014-2016 was approximately 11 months, varying from 267 days to 386 days for those years. The median age is the age at which half the cases are decided in a shorter amount of time and half the cases are decided in a longer amount of time. Based on these figures half of the cases filed would be disposed of (by dismissal, settlement or trial) in under 11 months, while half would take longer than 11 months.

It is also important to note that these types of actions are already often the subject of appellate review. In addition, by defining various types of evidence and specifying in statutory language what standards the circuit courts must follow, the bill is likely to generate uncertainty in the legal community about how these terms and standards are to be applied in particular factual circumstances. Therefore, it is estimated the bill will lead to additional appellate proceedings.

It is likely that additional court proceedings could be generated under the terms of this bill, but it is impossible to predict how frequently that may happen. Additional proceedings require additional judge, court reporter, court staff and juror time. For the circuit courts, these costs are borne by both the state and the county. For the appellate courts, these costs are borne by the state. It is expected that existing state court staff would absorb any additional proceedings. It is more difficult to estimate the impact on county costs.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications