
Wisconsin Legislative Council

AMENDMENT MEMO



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2019 Assembly Bill 798

Assembly Amendment 1

2019 ASSEMBLY BILL 798

Assembly Bill 798 requires the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to provide grants, through a competitive application process determined by DNR, to local water improvement groups to conduct projects using biomanipulation to improve the water quality of lakes and impoundments on the impaired waters list prepared by DNR, as required under the Clean Water Act. Under the bill, biomanipulation projects must include comprehensive fish studies, the removal of zooplanktivorous and benthivorous fish, and the introduction of piscivorous fish. The grants may cover 90 percent of the costs of biomanipulation projects. The bill appropriates \$150,000 of general purpose revenue for the 2019-21 biennium for this purpose.

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1

The amendment clarifies that eligible biomanipulation projects must include the removal of zooplanktivorous and benthivorous fish **or** the introduction of piscivorous fish, **or both**, and must include comprehensive fish studies. The amendment also specifically directs DNR to select grants through a competitive application process determined by DNR that prioritizes projects that include both the removal of zooplanktivorous and benthivorous fish and the introduction of piscivorous fish, in addition to comprehensive fish studies.

BILL HISTORY

Representative Summerfield offered Assembly Amendment 1 on February 3, 2020. On February 6, 2020, the Assembly Committee on Environment voted to recommend adoption of the amendment on a vote of Ayes, 7; Noes, 4, and voted to recommend passage of the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 11; Noes, 0.

REL:jal