Wisconsin Legislative Council
AMENDMENT MEMO

2019 Assembly Bill 800	Assembly Amendment 1

2019 ASSEMBLY BILL 800

2019 Assembly Bill 800 does several things relating to Wisconsin groundwater quality research and education, including providing funding to support the operations of the Center for Watershed Science and Education ("the Center") at the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point and providing grant funds to support countywide testing and mapping of privately owned wells.

Specifically, the bill establishes requirements for and directs the Department of Natural Resources to administer a grant program to provide grants to counties for:

- Conducting countywide testing and mapping of privately owned wells to assess groundwater quality and to determine the extent and type of any contamination and to study and map geologic characteristics and well construction practices in the county, including depth to bedrock and well age, to determine any correlation between water quality, geology, and well construction.

- If a county has completed the study discussed above, notifying the public of the results and notifying private well owners whose wells may be contaminated based on the results.

As a condition of receiving a grant, a county must provide equal matching funds and must submit the results of its testing to the Center.

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1

The amendment requires that, upon request, the Center provide the information received from counties and any other information or data in its possession that is relevant to addressing Wisconsin water quality issues. The Center may not provide any personally identifiable information.

BILL HISTORY

Representative Shankland introduced Assembly Bill 800 on January 24, 2020, and offered Assembly Amendment 1 on February 5, 2020. On February 6, 2020, the Assembly Committee on Colleges and Universities recommended adoption of the amendment and passage of the bill, as amended, on votes of Ayes, 16; Noes, 0.

RES:ty