
Wisconsin Legislative Council

AMENDMENT MEMO



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Contact: Anna Henning, Senior Staff Attorney

2019 Assembly Bill 895

Assembly Amendments 1 and 2

2019 ASSEMBLY BILL 895

2019 Assembly Bill 895 authorizes the State Building Commission to issue up to \$5 million in grants for the construction or improvement of public or private, indoor, athletic or aquatic athletic facilities. The bill also authorizes general fund-supported borrowing for that purpose.

The bill limits each grant awarded under the bill to no more than \$1 million and requires a facility that receives a grant to provide at least 50 percent in matching funds. Finally, the bill requires the Department of Administration to approve the project plans for each grant.

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1

Assembly Amendment 1 makes facilities that have a primary purpose of improving health and fitness through weight training or the use of cardiovascular equipment, or both, ineligible for grants under the bill.

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 2

Assembly Amendment 2 authorizes the State Building Commission to utilize up to \$3 million of an existing \$25 million bonding authorization to provide a grant to the Incourage Community Foundation in Wisconsin Rapids for the construction of an economic development and community hub. The amendment provides a public purpose statement, which sets forth the Legislature's finding and determination that supporting entrepreneurs and innovators, providing job training facilities, and promoting dynamic community revitalization and development are of vital importance in creating jobs and contributing to economic development and tourism, and that redeveloping the former Daily Tribune building for purposes of the new hub is in the public interest. The amendment requires the Incourage Community Foundation to secure matching funding before the State Building Commission may award the grant.

BILL HISTORY

Representative Knodl and others introduced 2019 Assembly Bill 895 on February 11, 2020. Following a public hearing on the bill, Representative Knodl offered Assembly Amendment 1. On February 18, 2020, the Assembly Committee on State Affairs voted to recommend adoption of Assembly Amendment 1 on a vote of Ayes, 14; Noes, 0. On the same day, the committee voted to recommend passage of the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 9; Noes, 5.

On February 20, 2020, Representative Krug offered Assembly Amendment 2, and the Assembly adopted Amendments 1 and 2, both on voice votes. The Assembly then voted to pass the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 65; Noes, 34.

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