

WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2009 Wisconsin Act 374 [2009 Senate Bill 623]

Farmland Preservation Agreements

Beginning on July 1, 2009, the Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) may not approve any new farmland preservation agreements under the terms of the 2007 statutes.

2009 Wisconsin Act 374 allows the DATCP to approve applications that were submitted from January 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009, but not processed by the later date. The Act requires DATCP to notify each person whose application is subject to the provisions of the bill to determine whether the person remains interested in the application; applicants are given 90 days from receipt of DATCP's notice to respond and, if they do not respond, lose the opportunity to pursue the application further.

In addition, whereas the 2007 statutes specified that farmland preservation agreements are for a term of from 10 to 25 years, the Act specifies that agreements approved under its provisions are for a term of 10 years.

Effective date: 2009 Wisconsin Act 374 takes effect on June 2, 2010.

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: http://www.legis.state.wi.us/.