



2021 ASSEMBLY BILL 149

March 8, 2021 - Introduced by Representatives VOS, STEINEKE, AUGUST, PETERSEN, VORPAGEL, DUCHOW, JAMES, KERKMAN, BORN, LOUDENBECK, KATSMAN, ZIMMERMAN, J. RODRIGUEZ, KURTZ, SKOWRONSKI, KITCHENS, RAMTHUN, EDMING, SPIROS, PETRYK, NEYLON, SORTWELL, PLUMER, TUSLER, MURPHY, MOSES, SUMMERFIELD, SNYDER, MACCO, STEFFEN, ROZAR, KRUG, DITTRICH, GUNDRUM, DALLMAN, TRANEL, BROOKS, ALLEN, WITTKE, SWEARINGEN, ARMSTRONG and CABRAL-GUEVARA, cosponsored by Senators LEMAHIEU, KAPENGA, FEYEN, TESTIN, WANGGAARD, MARKLEIN, BERNIER, STROEBEL, JACQUE and BALLWEG. Referred to Committee on Constitution and Ethics.

1 **AN ACT relating to:** legislative oversight of federal COVID-19 funds.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, with exceptions, the governor is authorized to receive and direct the expenditure of all federal funds received by the state. This bill increases the legislature's role in approving the expenditure of federal funds that are received by the state between the effective date of this bill and June 30, 2022, that relate to COVID-19 activities. Under the bill, as soon as practical after the receipt of any federal funds related to COVID-19 that are made available to the state, the governor must submit to the Joint Committee on Finance for a 14-day passive review a plan or plans for the expenditure of the funds.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

2 **SECTION 1. Nonstatutory provisions.**

3 (1) LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT OF FEDERAL FUNDS RELATED TO COVID-19.

4 (a) *Definitions.* In this section:

5 1. "COVID-19" means an infection caused by the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus.

6 2. "Federal funds related to COVID-19" means federal moneys received by the

7 state beginning on the effective date of this subdivision and ending on June 30, 2022,

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1 pursuant to federal legislation enacted during the 116th or 117th Congress for the
2 purpose of COVID-19 related activities.

3 (b) *Expenditure of federal funds related to COVID-19.* Notwithstanding s.
4 16.54, as soon as practical after the receipt of any federal funds related to COVID-19,
5 the governor shall submit to the joint committee on finance a plan or plans for the
6 expenditure of the federal funds related to COVID-19. If the cochairpersons of the
7 committee do not notify the governor that the committee has scheduled a meeting
8 for the purpose of reviewing a plan within 14 working days after the date the
9 governor submits the plan, the governor may implement the plan. If, within 14
10 working days after the date the governor submits a plan, the cochairpersons of the
11 committee notify the governor that the committee has scheduled a meeting for the
12 purpose of reviewing the proposed plan, the governor may implement the plan only
13 as approved by the committee.

14 (END)