

1999 SENATE BILL 331

January 21, 2000 - Introduced by Senators MOEN, FITZGERALD, RUDE, FARROW, WIRCH, COWLES, GROBSCHMIDT, BRESKE and SHIBILSKI, cosponsored by Representatives HOVEN, MEYER, HUEBSCH, PETTIS, UNDERHEIM, SUDER, SKINDRUD, HASENOHRL, OLSEN, SPILLNER, HANDRICK, STONE, MONTGOMERY, WIECKERT, BRANDEMUEHL, PORTER, SCHOOFF, MUSSER, GRONEMUS, RYBA, AINSWORTH, PLOUFF, F. LASEE and KELSO. Referred to Health, Utilities, Veterans and Military Affairs.

1 **AN ACT to create** 66.082 (3m) of the statutes; **relating to:** operation and costs
2 of municipal cable television systems.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law a municipality may own and operate a cable television system and may award and regulate a cable television system franchise. This bill requires a municipality that owns and operates its own cable television system to prepare and maintain records that include the cost of franchise fees, pole rentals and all other expenses that the municipality would incur were it a nonmunicipal cable operator granted a franchise by the municipality and the amount, source and cost of working capital used for the municipal cable television system. The bill also prohibits the municipality from allocating municipal costs and indebtedness in a way that subsidizes directly or indirectly the provision of municipal cable television service.

For further information see the *local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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

3 **SECTION 1.** 66.082 (3m) of the statutes is created to read:

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1 **66.082 (3m) MUNICIPAL CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEM.** (a) A municipality that owns
2 and operates a cable television system shall prepare and maintain records that
3 include all of the following:

4 1. The cost of franchise fees, pole rentals and all other expenses that the
5 municipality would incur were it a nonmunicipal cable operator that had been
6 granted a franchise by the municipality.

7 2. The amount, source and cost of working capital used for the municipal cable
8 television system.

9 (b) A municipality that owns and operates a cable television system may not
10 allocate municipal costs and indebtedness in a way that subsidizes directly or
11 indirectly the provision of municipal cable television service.

12 **SECTION 2. Effective date.**

13 (1) This act takes effect on the first day of the 3rd month beginning after
14 publication.

15 **(END)**