



## 2001 SENATE BILL 434

February 13, 2002 - Introduced by Senators MOEN and BURKE, cosponsored by Representatives KREIBICH, RYBA and TURNER, by request of Eau Claire County. Referred to Committee on Universities, Housing, and Government Operations.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 59.605 (1) (d) of the statutes; **relating to:** creating an  
2 exception for the county operating levy rate limit.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Under current law and subject to a number of exceptions, no county may impose an operating levy at an operating levy rate that exceeds .001 or the operating levy rate in 1992, whichever is greater. "Operating levy" is defined as the county purpose levy, less the debt levy, and "operating levy rate" is defined as the total levy rate minus the debt levy rate.

A county may exceed the limit under current law if its board adopts a resolution stating its wish to exceed the operating levy rate limit that is otherwise applicable and if that resolution is approved by the electors of the county in a referendum. The limit may also be exceeded if a county increases the services that it provides by adding responsibility for providing a service transferred to the county by another governmental unit.

Currently, if a county exceeds its operating levy rate limit, as determined by the department of revenue (DOR), DOR must reduce the county's shared revenue payment and may ask the department of transportation to reduce the county's general transportation aid payments.

This bill changes the definition of "operating levy" to mean the county purpose levy, less the debt levy, less any portion of the county purpose levy that relates to county expenditures for health care costs for county employees.

