2003 ASSEMBLY BILL 495

September 8, 2003 – Introduced by Representatives Ainsworth, Petrowski, Bies, Gunderson, Hahn, Hines, Honadel, Hundertmark, Jensen, Jeskewitz, Ladwig, F. Lasee, M. Lehman, Loeffelholz, Olsen, Owens, Rhoades, Townsend and Van Roy, cosponsored by Senators Breske, Wirch and A. Lasee. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

- 1 AN ACT *to amend* 83.08 (4) of the statutes; **relating to:** the sale of surplus county
- 2 highway land.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Department of Transportation (DOT) may, with the approval of the governor and subject to certain requirements and exceptions, sell at public or private sale state property, including land, that is under its jurisdiction when DOT determines that the property is not necessary for highway purposes. DOT may also order a county highway committee to acquire land for highway purposes and may order the county highway committee to sell such land at public or private sale, subject to conditions and terms authorized by DOT.

Also under current law, a county board may sell at public sale county land that was acquired for highway purposes if the board determines that the land is no longer needed for highway purposes. DOT must approve the sale if the county acquired the land by purchase using any funds other than county funds.

This bill allows a county to sell surplus county highway land at fair market value by private, rather than public, sale to an owner of land adjacent to the surplus county highway land. The bill does not affect the sale of county highway land ordered by DOT.

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:

ASSEMBLY BILL 495

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SECTION 1. 83.08 (4)	of the sta	tutes is am	ended to	read:
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83.08 **(4)** Subject to s. 84.09 **(3) (c)** and to the approval of the department, the county board is authorized and empowered to sell at public sale, or to sell at private sale for fair market value to an owner of adjacent property, property owned by the county in fee for highway purposes, when the county board shall determine that such property is no longer necessary for the county's use for highway purposes. The funds derived from such sale shall be deposited in the county highway fund and the expense incurred in connection with the sale shall be paid from that fund. However, approval of the department is not required where county funds only have been used.

SECTION 2. Initial applicability.

(1) This act first applies to property sold on the effective date of this subsection.

12 (END)