

2003 SENATE BILL 410

January 27, 2004 – Introduced by Senators BROWN, S. FITZGERALD, KANAVAS, KEDZIE and ROESSLER, cosponsored by Representatives M. WILLIAMS, KERKMAN, HUNDERTMARK, ALBERS, GUNDERSON, HUEBSCH, J. LEHMAN, M. LEHMAN, MCCORMICK, OTT, STONE, VRUWINK, MUSSER and HAHN. Referred to Committee on Homeland Security, Veterans and Military Affairs and Government Reform.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 101.575 (4) (a) 1. and 101.575 (4) (a) 2. of the statutes; **relating**
2 **to:** eligibility for a grant under the fire dues program.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, an eligible city, village, or town (municipality) may receive a grant from the Department of Commerce (department) under the fire dues program that may be used to purchase fire protection equipment, to provide fire inspection services and public education, to train fire fighters and fire inspectors, and to fund certain accounts established for the benefit of fire fighters (fire dues program). With certain exceptions, in order for a municipality to receive a grant under the fire dues program, the chief of the municipal fire department currently must provide a fire inspection for every public building and place of employment in the fire department's territory.

This bill changes this eligibility requirement. Under this bill, a municipality may be eligible to receive a grant if the municipality substantially complies with the requirement that every public building and place of employment be inspected. In addition, the bill allows a municipality to be in substantial compliance, rather than strict compliance, with other eligibility criteria specified in current law. The bill requires the department, by rule, to define "substantial compliance" for purposes of these provisions.

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For further information see the *state and 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:

1 **SECTION 1.** 101.575 (4) (a) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

2 101.575 (4) (a) 1. The department determines that the city, village, town or fire
3 department ~~has complied~~ is in substantial compliance with sub. (6) and s. 101.14 (2).
4 The department shall establish by rule the meaning of “substantial compliance” for
5 purposes of this subdivision.

6 **SECTION 2.** 101.575 (4) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

7 101.575 (4) (a) 2. The city, village or town has submitted a form which is signed
8 by the clerk of the city, village or town and by the chief of the fire department
9 providing fire protection to that city, village or town, which is provided by the
10 department by rule and which certifies that the fire department ~~has complied~~ is in
11 substantial compliance with this section or the department has audited the city,
12 village, town or fire department and determined that it ~~complies~~ is in substantial
13 compliance with sub. (6) and s. 101.14 (2). The department shall establish by rule
14 the meaning of “substantial compliance” for purposes of this subdivision.

15 **SECTION 3. Initial applicability.**

16 (1) This act first applies to grants under section 101.575 of the statutes that are
17 disbursed by the department of commerce on the effective date of this subsection.

18 **SECTION 4. Effective date.**

19 (1) This act takes effect on the first day of the 8th month beginning after
20 publication.

21

(END)