

**ASSEMBLY BILL 155 (LRB -0603)**

An Act to amend 59.69 (10) (a), 60.61 (5) (a) and 62.23 (7) (h); and to create 59.69 (10) (e), 60.61 (5) (e) and 62.23 (7) (hg) of the statutes; relating to: a municipality's and county's ability to eliminate certain nonconforming buildings or premises. (FE)

**2005**

09-22.	A.	Introduced by Representatives <b>Gunderson, Albers, Vos, Ainsworth, Gronemus, Hahn, Kerkman, Kestell, Krawczyk, LeMahieu, Musser, Nischke, Pettis, Suder, Towns, Townsend, Van Roy, Wood and McCormick</b> ; cosponsored by Senators <b>Leibham, Reynolds and Breske</b> .	
03-03.	A.	Read first time and referred to committee on Property Rights and Land Management .....	104
03-22.	A.	Fiscal estimate received.	
04-06.	A.	Public hearing held.	
04-12.	A.	Executive action taken.	
04-15.	A.	Report passage recommended by committee on Property Rights and Land Management, Ayes 4, Noes 2 ....	192
04-15.	A.	Referred to committee on Rules .....	192
09-22.	A.	Placed on calendar 9-27-2005 by committee on Rules.	
09-22.	A.	Made a special order of business at 11:16 A.M. on 9-27-2005 pursuant to Assembly Resolution 38 .....	479
09-27.	A.	Read a second time .....	497
09-27.	A.	Ordered to a third reading .....	497
09-27.	A.	Rules suspended .....	497
09-27.	A.	Read a third time and <b>passed</b> , Ayes 70, Noes 27 .....	497
09-27.	A.	Ordered immediately messaged .....	498
09-30.	S.	Received from Assembly .....	382
09-30.	S.	Read first time and referred to committee on Veterans, Homeland Security, Military Affairs, Small Business and Government Reform .....	382
10-03.	S.	Withdrawn from committee on Veterans, Homeland Security, Military Affairs, Small Business and Government Reform and rereferred to committee on Housing and Financial Institutions, pursuant to Senate Rule 46 (2)(c) .....	385
10-12.	S.	Public hearing held.	
10-13.	S.	Executive action taken.	
10-19.	S.	Report concurrence recommended by committee on Housing and Financial Institutions, Ayes 7, Noes 0 ....	396
10-19.	S.	Available for scheduling.	
10-27.	S.	Placed on calendar 11-1-2005 by committee on Senate Organization.	
11-01.	S.	Read a second time.	
11-01.	S.	Ordered to a third reading.	
11-01.	S.	Rules suspended.	
11-01.	S.	Read a third time and <b>concurred in</b> .	
11-01.	S.	Ordered immediately messaged.	
11-01.	A.	Received from Senate concurred in.	

**2005  
ENROLLED BILL**

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**ADOPTED DOCUMENTS:**

Orig     Engr         SubAmdt     

05-06031 /

Amendments to above (if none, write "NONE"):     

Corrections - show date (if none, write "NONE"):     

Topic     relax    

11/2/05          
Date                      Enrolling Drafter

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## 2005 ASSEMBLY BILL 155

March 3, 2005 - Introduced by Representatives GUNDERSON, ALBERS, VOS, AINSWORTH, GRONEMUS, HAHN, KERKMAN, KESTELL, KRAWCZYK, LEMAHIEU, MUSSER, NISCHKE, PETTIS, SUDER, TOWNS, TOWNSEND, VAN ROY, WOOD and McCORMICK, cosponsored by Senators LEIBHAM, REYNOLDS and BRESKE. Referred to Committee on Property Rights and Land Management.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 59.69 (10) (a), 60.61 (5) (a) and 62.23 (7) (h); and **to create**  
2 59.69 (10) (e), 60.61 (5) (e) and 62.23 (7) (hg) of the statutes; **relating to:** a  
3 municipality's and county's ability to eliminate certain nonconforming  
4 buildings or premises.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Under current law, cities, villages, or certain towns (municipalities) or counties are authorized to enact zoning ordinances that regulate and restrict the height, number of stories, and size of buildings and other structures, the percentage of lot that may be occupied, the size of yards and other open spaces, the density of population, and the location and use of buildings, structures, and land for various purposes.

Also under current law, a zoning ordinance adopted by a municipality or county may not prohibit the continued lawful use of any building or premises for any trade or industry for which the building or premises is used when the ordinance takes effect, although in certain towns such an ordinance may prohibit the alteration of, or addition to, any existing building or structure that is used to carry on an otherwise prohibited trade or industry within the area that is subject to the ordinance (district). In cities, villages, towns exercising village powers, and counties, the alteration of, addition to, or repair in excess of 50 percent of the assessed value of any existing building or structure to carry on any prohibited trade or industry within the district may be prohibited. Generally, if such a nonconforming use of a building or premises

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is discontinued for 12 months, any future use of the building or premises must conform to the municipality's or county's zoning ordinance.

This bill extends current law to also apply to structures and fixtures, and explicitly specifies that no municipality or county may require the removal of a nonconforming building, premises, structure, or fixture, which may be lawfully used under current law, by an amortization ordinance. The bill defines "amortization ordinance" as an ordinance that allows the continuance of the lawful use of a nonconforming building, premises, structure, or fixture that may be lawfully used, but only for a specified period of time, after which such lawful nonconforming use must be discontinued without the payment of just compensation.

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

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

1           **SECTION 1.** 59.69 (10) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           59.69 (10) (a) An ordinance enacted under this section may not prohibit the  
3           continuance of the lawful use of any building ~~or~~, premises, structure, or fixture for  
4           any trade or industry for which such building ~~or~~, premises, structure, or fixture is  
5           used at the time that the ordinances take effect, but the alteration of, or addition to,  
6           or repair in excess of 50% 50 percent of its assessed value of any existing building ~~or~~,  
7           premises, structure, or fixture for the purpose of carrying on any prohibited trade or  
8           new industry within the district where such buildings ~~or~~, premises, structures, or  
9           fixtures are located, may be prohibited. The continuance of the nonconforming use  
10          of a temporary structure may be prohibited. If the nonconforming use is  
11          discontinued for a period of 12 months, any future use of the building ~~and~~, premises,  
12          structure, or fixture shall conform to the ordinance.

13          **SECTION 2.** 59.69 (10) (e) of the statutes is created to read:

14          59.69 (10) (e) 1. In this paragraph, "amortization ordinance" means an  
15          ordinance that allows the continuance of the lawful use of a nonconforming building,

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1 premises, structure, or fixture that may be lawfully used as described under par. (a),  
2 but only for a specified period of time, after which the lawful use of such building,  
3 premises, structure, or fixture must be discontinued without the payment of just  
4 compensation.

5 2. Subject to par. (a), an ordinance enacted under this section may not require  
6 the removal of a nonconforming building, premises, structure, or fixture by an  
7 amortization ordinance.

8 **SECTION 3.** 60.61 (5) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 60.61 (5) (a) An ordinance adopted under this section may not prohibit the  
10 continued use of any building ~~or~~, premises, structure, or fixture for any trade or  
11 industry for which the building ~~or~~, premises, structure, or fixture is used when the  
12 ordinance takes effect. An ordinance adopted under this section may prohibit the  
13 alteration of, or addition to, any existing building ~~or~~, premises, structure, or fixture  
14 used to carry on an otherwise prohibited trade or industry within the district. If a  
15 use that does not conform to an ordinance adopted under this section is discontinued  
16 for a period of 12 months, any future use of the land, building ~~or~~, premises, structure,  
17 or fixture shall conform to the ordinance.

18 **SECTION 4.** 60.61 (5) (e) of the statutes is created to read:

19 60.61 (5) (e) 1. In this paragraph, “amortization ordinance” means an  
20 ordinance that allows the continuance of the lawful use of a nonconforming building,  
21 premises, structure, or fixture that may be lawfully used as described under par. (a),  
22 but only for a specified period of time, after which the lawful use of such building,  
23 premises, structure, or fixture must be discontinued without the payment of just  
24 compensation.

