

2007 ASSEMBLY BILL 869

February 22, 2008 – Introduced by Representatives HINES, ALBERS, BALLWEG, MONTGOMERY and TOWNSEND, cosponsored by Senators LASSA and OLSEN. Referred to Committee on Homeland Security and State Preparedness.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 66.0602 (3) (e) 5. of the statutes; **relating to:** expanding an
2 exception to local levy limits for levies for debts incurred by a joint fire
3 department.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, as created in 2007 Wisconsin Act 20, the biennial budget bill, local levy limits are applied to the property tax levies that are imposed in December 2007 and 2008. Current law prohibits a political subdivision (any city, village, town, or county) from increasing its levy by a percentage that exceeds its “valuation factor,” which is defined as the greater of either 2 percent or the percentage change in the political subdivision’s equalized value due to new construction, less improvements removed, except that for 2007 the levy limit is 3.86 percent. In addition, the calculation of a political subdivision’s levy may include any tax increment that is generated by a tax incremental district.

Current law contains a number of exceptions to the levy limit. These exceptions include amounts which may be levied for the following purposes or because of the following situations: political subdivisions that transfer the provision of services to another governmental unit; cities or villages that annex town territory; political subdivisions that levy to pay debt service on debt authorized on or after July 1, 2005; a levy for certain charges assessed by a joint fire department; a county levy that relates to a county children with disabilities education board, bridge and culvert repairs, payments to public libraries, and a countywide emergency medical system; and the amount a village levies to pay for police services, but only for the year after the year in which a town, which did not have a police force, changed to village status.

