2007 ASSEMBLY BILL 638

December 21, 2007 – Introduced by Representative SCHNEIDER. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

AN ACT to create 281.17 (11) of the statutes; relating to: bottling of water provided by a local governmental unit.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires a person who proposes to bottle water, using more than 25 percent of the water produced by a local governmental unit, such as a municipal water district, to obtain approval from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The bill prohibits DNR from providing its approval unless it determines that the bottling of the water will not impair the ability of the local governmental unit to furnish water to the public and will not have a significant adverse environmental impact. For further information see the state 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:

SECTION 1. 281.17 (11) of the statutes is created to read:

281.17 (11) (a) In this subsection, “local governmental unit” has the meaning given in s. 281.34 (1) (c).
(b) No person may operate a business that produces bottled drinking water, as defined in s. 97.34 (1) (a), using water supplied by a local governmental unit engaged in furnishing water to or for the public if the person uses more than 25 percent of the water furnished by the local governmental unit, unless the person obtains the approval of the department. The department may not grant its approval under this subsection unless it determines that the use of the water will not impair the ability of the local governmental unit to furnish water to or for the public and that the use of the water will not have a significant adverse environmental impact.

SECTION 2. Initial applicability.

(1) This act first applies to a person who begins to use more than 25 percent of the water furnished by a local governmental unit on the effective date of this subsection.