



State of Wisconsin
2011 – 2012 LEGISLATURE



LRB-0635/1
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2011 ASSEMBLY BILL 48

March 10, 2011 – Introduced by Representatives J. OTT, MURSAU, STONE, BALLWEG, PRIDEMORE, KESTELL, LEMAHIEU, WILLIAMS, BIES, BROOKS, STRACHOTA, PETERSEN, TIFFANY, KERKMAN, RIVARD, STEINEKE and NERISON, cosponsored by Senators KEDZIE, MOULTON, HARSDFORF, GALLOWAY and SCHULTZ. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

1 **AN ACT** *to renumber* 23.09165 (2); and *to create* 23.09165 (2) (bc) and 23.09165
2 (3) (ec) of the statutes; **relating to:** information about land acquired with
3 stewardship funding.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current law authorizes the state to incur public debt for land conservation activities under the Warren Knowles–Gaylord Nelson Stewardship 2000 Program, which is administered by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). In addition to this stewardship program, the state was authorized to incur public debt for land conservation activities under the original stewardship program that began in 1990 and ended in 2000. Under these programs, the state itself may acquire the land, or interests in land, or DNR may award grants or other state aid to certain local governmental units, the Kickapoo Reserve Management Board or other nonprofit conservation organizations for land conservation activities.

This bill requires DNR to make available, for a fee, a written directory of all land acquired under both stewardship programs (stewardship land) that is open to the public. Also, DNR must make available a list of all stewardship land acquired before October 27, 2007, for which public access has been prohibited or restricted and the reasons for the prohibition or restriction. For stewardship land acquired on or after that date, current law requires landowners to post signs that notify the public which activities are permitted, restricted, and prohibited on the land. The directory and list must be completed within two years after the bill becomes law.

