



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2011 Wisconsin Act 30
[2011 Senate Bill 26]

**Bonding Authority For Major
Interstate Bridges**

2011 Wisconsin Act 30 eliminates the requirement that the state receive federal funding before using funds collected under its bonding authority for major interstate bridge projects. A major interstate bridge project is the construction or reconstruction of a bridge that is on the state trunk highway system, including approaches, that crosses a river forming a boundary of the state, and for which the state's estimated share of the costs for the project is at least \$100 million.

Current law provides the state with authority to contract public debt in an amount not to exceed \$225 million dollars to fund major interstate bridge projects. However, current law makes the expenditure of funds for major interstate bridge projects contingent upon the receipt of federal funds. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT) is presently prohibited from expending or encumbering funds collected under the state's bonding authority unless the state receives at least \$75 million in federal funds designated for the project.

2011 Wisconsin Act 30 removes the requirement that the state receive federal funds covering at least \$75 million of the state's share of a major interstate bridge project before DOT may expend or encumber funds collected under the state's bonding authorization.

Effective date: July 12, 2011

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/>.