
AN ACT to amend 20.192 (1) (r), 238.13 (2) (b) 2., 238.13 (3) (intro.) and 238.13 (5) of the statutes; relating to: brownfields redevelopment grants.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) may award grants for the redevelopment of brownfields. Brownfields are industrial or commercial sites that are abandoned, idle, or underused because of actual or perceived environmental contamination. This bill requires WEDC to expend at least $1,000,000 in each fiscal year for brownfields redevelopment grants.

Current law authorizes WEDC, in making brownfields redevelopment grants, to consider certain criteria, including the potential of a project to promote economic development and the extent and degree of soil and groundwater contamination at the project site. This bill requires WEDC to consider these criteria in making brownfields redevelopment grants. The bill also requires WEDC to consult with local economic development entities before making brownfields redevelopment grants.

For further information see the state and local 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. 20.192 (1) (r) of the statutes, as created by 2011 Wisconsin Act 32,
20.192 (1) (r) Economic development fund; programs. From the economic development fund, as a continuing appropriation, the amounts in the schedule for funding economic development programs administered by the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation. In each fiscal year, the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation shall expend at least $1,000,000 from this appropriation account for brownfields grants under s. 238.13.

SECTION 2. 238.13 (2) (b) 2. of the statutes, as affected by 2011 Wisconsin Act 32, is amended to read:

238.13 (2) (b) 2. For a grant that does not exceed $300,000, the recipient shall be required to contribute not less than 20% of the cost of the project. For a grant that is greater than $300,000 but that does not exceed $700,000, the recipient shall be required to contribute not less than 35% of the cost of the project. For a grant that is greater than $700,000 but that does not exceed $1,250,000, the recipient shall be required to contribute not less than 50% of the cost of the project.

SECTION 3. 238.13 (3) (intro.) of the statutes, as affected by 2011 Wisconsin Act 32, is amended to read:

238.13 (3) (intro.) The corporation may consider the following criteria in making awards under this section:

SECTION 4. 238.13 (5) of the statutes, as affected by 2011 Wisconsin Act 32, is amended to read:

238.13 (5) Before the corporation awards a grant under this section, the corporation shall consider the recommendations of the department of administration and the department of natural resources, and local economic development entities.