AN ACT to amend 283.60 (1) (intro.) and (c) of the statutes; relating to: the waiver of requirements related to the discharge of water pollution for certain research projects.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) administers laws relating to the discharge of pollutants into surface water or groundwater, including the requirement to obtain a water pollution discharge permit before beginning a discharge. Current law authorizes DNR to waive the requirement to obtain a water pollution discharge permit for a research project to evaluate advanced agricultural nutrient management tools if certain requirements are met. This bill authorizes DNR to waive any requirement of the laws relating to the discharge of pollutants into the waters of the state for such a research project if the conditions are met.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 283.60 (1) (intro.) and (c) of the statutes, as created by 2011 Wisconsin Act 32, are amended to read:
283.60 (1) (intro.) The department may waive the compliance with any requirement for of this chapter or of a permit issued under this chapter for a research project for the purpose of evaluating advanced agricultural nutrient management tools and precision agricultural technology, if all of the following conditions are met:

(c) The person who will operate the project agrees to take necessary actions to maintain compliance with surface water and groundwater requirements under ch. 281 and this chapter, other than the permitting a requirement waived under this section, and to take necessary actions to regain compliance with those requirements if a violation occurs in the course of the project.

(END)