AN ACT to renumber and amend 84.106 (1); and to create 84.106 (1g) of the statutes; relating to: designation of highways as scenic byways.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Department of Transportation (DOT) must develop, implement, and administer a program to designate highways that have outstanding scenic, historic, cultural, natural, recreational, or archaeological qualities as scenic byways. DOT must promulgate rules, consistent with federal law, for its scenic byways program.

This bill clarifies that DOT may designate local highways as scenic byways under this program.

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

SECTION 1. 84.106 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 84.106 (1m) and amended to read:

84.106 (1m) DESIGNATION. The department shall develop, implement, and administer a program to designate highways, as defined in s. 340.01 (22), or portions of highways in this state, including, notwithstanding sub. (2), state trunk highways,
connecting highways, and local highways, that have outstanding scenic, historic, cultural, natural, recreational, or archaeological qualities as scenic byways. The department may seek designation by the federal government of a highway designated as a scenic byway under this section as a national scenic byway or as an All-American Road.

SECTION 2. 84.106 (1g) of the statutes is created to read:

84.106 (1g) DEFINITIONS. In this section:

(a) “Connecting highway” has the meaning given in s. 340.01 (9).

(b) “Highway” has the meaning given in s. 340.01 (22).

(c) “Local highways” has the meaning given in s. 86.31 (1) (c) for “local roads.”

(d) “State trunk highway” has the meaning given in s. 340.01 (60).

(END)