2015 ASSEMBLY BILL 562


AN ACT to repeal 85.062 (3) (b); to renumber and amend 85.066 (3); and to create 85.066 (3) (a) to (c) and 85.20 (9) of the statutes; relating to:

expenditures relating to the operation of a rail fixed guideway transportation system in a first class city.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill limits the state’s authority to incur expenses and expend moneys for a rail fixed guideway transportation system in the city of Milwaukee.

Under current law, a “rail fixed guideway transportation system” is a public transportation system being designed, engineered, constructed, or operated that is intended to operate upon a fixed guideway and that is not subject to regulation by the Federal Railroad Administration. Under current law, a county containing a first class city, currently only Milwaukee County, may not incur any expenses relating to the operation of a rail fixed guideway transportation system in the first class city, currently only the city of Milwaukee, unless the expense incurred will be fully reimbursed by the first class city. Under this bill, the state and it’s agencies are also prohibited from incurring these expenses.

This bill also removes the enumeration of any project resulting from the Milwaukee Downtown Transit Connector Study of the Wisconsin Center District from the list of major transit capital improvement projects eligible for construction and specifies that money provided for urban mass transit operating assistance
program aids may not be used for any purpose relating to the operation of a rail fixed guideway transportation system in a first class city.

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

SECTION 1. 85.062 (3) (b) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 2. 85.066 (3) of the statutes, as created by 2015 Wisconsin Act 55, is renumbered 85.066 (3) (intro.) and amended to read:

85.066 (3) COUNTIES CONTAINING EXPENDITURES RELATED TO CERTAIN TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS IN A FIRST CLASS CITY. (intro.) A county containing a 1st class city The following may not incur any direct or indirect expenses, including the forfeiture of any revenue, relating to the operation of a rail fixed guideway transportation system in the a 1st class city unless the expense incurred or revenue forfeited will be fully reimbursed by the 1st class city:

SECTION 3. 85.066 (3) (a) to (c) of the statutes are created to read:

85.066 (3) (a) The state.

(b) An agency, as defined in s. 16.52 (7).

(c) A county in which the 1st class city is located.

SECTION 4. 85.20 (9) of the statutes is created to read:

85.20 (9) PROHIBITED EXPENDITURES. An eligible applicant may not use aids provided under this section for any purpose related to the operation of a rail fixed guideway transportation system, as defined in s. 85.066 (1), in a 1st class city.