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# Wisconsin Legislative Council

## AMENDMENT MEMO

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**2019 Assembly Bill 325**

**Assembly Amendment 2**

### HARBOR ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Department of Transportation (DOT) administers a harbor assistance program under which it makes competitive grants for the purpose of reimbursing an eligible applicant<sup>1</sup> for moneys expended to make harbor improvements<sup>2</sup> and to fund other harbor assistance and improvement projects. The amount of a grant may not exceed 80 percent of the moneys expended by an applicant for harbor improvements. [s. 85.095, Stats.]

### 2019 ASSEMBLY BILL 325

2019 Assembly Bill 325 directs DOT to award a harbor assistance grant to the City of Green Bay for harbor improvements related to port expansion and the relocation of coal piles notwithstanding the eligibility criteria under the harbor assistance program. The bill limits the amount of the grant to \$1,500,000 or the total cost of the project, whichever is less.

### ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 2

Assembly Amendment 2 reduces the amount of the grant to \$1,200,000 or the total cost of the project, whichever is less.

### BILL HISTORY

2019 Assembly Bill 325 was introduced by Representative Steffen on July 3, 2019, and referred to the Assembly Committee on Transportation. On September 24, 2019, the Committee on Transportation recommended passage of the bill on a vote of Ayes, 9; Noes, 5, and the bill was referred to the Joint Committee on Finance.

On October 3, 2019, the Joint Committee on Finance offered Assembly Amendment 2, and recommended adoption of the amendment on a vote of Ayes, 12; Noes, 3. The Joint Committee on Finance recommended passage as amended on a vote of Ayes, 12; Noes, 3.

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<sup>1</sup> An “eligible applicant” means a county, municipality, town or agency thereof, a board of harbor commissioners, or a person who owns a harbor facility. [s. 85.095 (1) (a), Stats.]

<sup>2</sup> “Harbor improvements” means any dock wall repair and maintenance, construction of new dock walls, dredging of materials from a harbor, or the placement of dredged materials in containment facilities. [s. 85.095 (1) (b), Stats.]