2019 ASSEMBLY BILL 551

October 18, 2019 - Introduced by Representatives STAFSHOLT, FELZKOWSKI, DITTRICH, EDMING, KRUG, KUGLITSCH, MAGNAFICI, MURSAU, QUINN, SANFELIPPO, TAUCHE and WICHERS, cosponsored by Senators TESTIN, TIFFANY, BEWLEY, CRAIG, OLSEN, STROEBEL and WANGGAARD. Referred to Committee on Housing and Real Estate.

AN ACT to create 30.132 of the statutes; relating to: the presumption of riparian rights on navigable waterways.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill provides that the owner of land that abuts a navigable waterway is presumed to be a riparian owner and is entitled to exercise all rights afforded to a riparian owner unless those rights are specifically prohibited by the deed to the land.

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

SECTION 1. 30.132 of the statutes is created to read:

30.132 Presumption of riparian rights. An owner of land that abuts a navigable waterway is presumed to be a riparian owner and is entitled to exercise all rights afforded to a riparian owner, subject to the requirements of this chapter, including the right to place a pier, other structures, or deposits, even if the bed of the
waterway is owned in whole or in part by another, unless those rights are specifically prohibited by the deed to the land.