2021 WISCONSIN ACT 27

AN ACT to amend 23.15 (4); and to create 23.15 (5m) of the statutes; relating to: the use of proceeds from the sale of state-owned properties controlled by the Department of Natural Resources.

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

SECTION 1. 23.15 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

23.15 (4) Said The natural resources board effecting the sale of any such lands and structures shall, upon receiving payment therefor, shall deposit the funds proceeds from any sale of lands or structures under this section in the conservation fund to be used exclusively for the purpose of purchasing other areas of land for the creating and establishing of public hunting and fishing grounds, wildlife and fish refuges and state parks and for land in the lower Wisconsin state riverway as defined in s. 30.40 (15) to acquire land, as provided in s. 23.09 (2) (d), or easements, as provided in s. 23.094 (3), or to develop land or easements. If the land or structures were initially purchased by the department with federal monies, the department shall comply with any limitations on the use of the proceeds from the sale of the land or structures. The proceeds from any sale of lands or structures under this section may not be used to fund full-time equivalent positions or to pay program administration costs, other than costs payable to the department of administration.

SECTION 2m. 23.15 (5m) of the statutes is created to read:

23.15 (5m) Biennially, beginning on December 30, 2021, the department shall submit a report on land sales to the joint committee on finance and the senate and assembly standing committees having jurisdiction over environment, forestry, and natural resources matters regarding land sales. The department shall include in its report a list of all parcels that were approved for sale by the natural resources board under this section during the previous fiscal biennium. For each listed parcel, the department shall identify the location, acreage, proposed sale price, and reason for sale and shall indicate if the parcel was sold, is still for sale, or was removed from the market before sale, and provide an explanation for the parcel’s sale status. The department shall include an accounting of the total revenue received from land sales under this section during the previous fiscal biennium and detail how the proceeds from land sales under this section were allocated during the previous fiscal biennium.