AN ACT to create 20.370 (4) (cf) of the statutes; relating to: Groundwater Coordinating Council activities funding and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Groundwater Coordinating Council is attached to the Department of Natural Resources and advises and assists state agencies in the coordination of nonregulatory programs and the exchange of information related to groundwater. The council is made up of several members, including the DNR secretary and the president of the University of Wisconsin System.

This bill appropriates $500,000 each to DNR and to the Board of Regents of the UW System for their respective activities related to the Groundwater Coordinating Council.

The bill also provides additional funding for higher education and for special education aid the Department of Public Instruction pays to school districts, independent charter schools, cooperative educational service agencies, and county children with disabilities education boards for purposes of maintaining compliance with maintenance of effort requirements of the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act and the federal American Rescue Plan Act.

For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:
SECTION 1. 20.005 (3) (schedule) of the statutes: at the appropriate place, insert the following amounts for the purposes indicated:

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<tr>
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<th>2021-22</th>
<th>2022-23</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20.370 Natural resources, department of</td>
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<td>(4) Environmental management</td>
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<td>(cf) Groundwater coordinating council</td>
<td>GPR C</td>
<td>250,000 250,000</td>
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SECTION 2. 20.370 (4) (cf) of the statutes is created to read:

20.370 (4) (cf) Groundwater coordinating council. As a continuing appropriation from the general fund, the amounts in the schedule for activities of the department related to the groundwater coordinating council under ss. 15.347 (13) and 160.50.

SECTION 3. Fiscal changes.

(1) Groundwater coordinating council. In the schedule under s. 20.005 (3) for the appropriation to the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System under s. 20.285 (1) (a), the dollar amount for fiscal year 2021-22 is increased by $250,000 for activities of the University of Wisconsin System related to the groundwater coordinating council under ss. 15.347 (13) and 160.50. In the schedule under s. 20.005 (3) for the appropriation to the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System under s. 20.285 (1) (a), the dollar amount for fiscal year 2022-23 is increased by $250,000 for activities of the University of Wisconsin System related to the groundwater coordinating council under ss. 15.347 (13) and 160.50.

(2) Special education aid. In the schedule under s. 20.005 (3) for the appropriation to the department of public instruction under s. 20.255 (2) (b), the
dollar amount for fiscal year 2021–22 is increased by $160,000 to increase funding
for aids for special education under s. 115.88. In the schedule under s. 20.005 (3) for
the appropriation to the department of public instruction under s. 20.255 (2) (b), the
dollar amount for fiscal year 2022–23 is increased by $160,000 to increase funding
for aids for special education under s. 115.88.

(3) University of Wisconsin System; general program operations. In the
schedule under s. 20.005 (3) for the appropriation to the Board of Regents of the
University of Wisconsin System under s. 20.285 (1) (a), the dollar amount for fiscal
year 2021–22 is increased by $40,000 to increase funding for the purpose for which
the appropriation is made. In the schedule under s. 20.005 (3) for the appropriation
to the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System under s. 20.285 (1) (a),
the dollar amount for fiscal year 2022–23 is increased by $40,000 to increase funding
for the purpose for which the appropriation is made.

(END)