AN ACT to create 94.701 (3) (b) 9. of the statutes; relating to: local regulation of pesticides to protect pollinators.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill allows a political subdivision to regulate pesticides for the purpose of protecting pollinators and pollinator habitats.

Current law prohibits a political subdivision (a city, village, town, or county) from prohibiting the use of or otherwise regulating pesticides, but provides numerous exemptions. For example, a political subdivision may enact an ordinance that regulates pesticides pursuant to a storm water management program or that relates to the storage, treatment, or disposal of solid waste that contains pesticides. The bill adds an additional exemption that allows a political subdivision to regulate pesticides in order to protect pollinators and pollinator habitats. “Pollinator” is defined in the bill as an insect that pollinates flowers.

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

SECTION 1. 94.701 (3) (b) 9. of the statutes is created to read:
Regulates pesticides for the purpose of protecting pollinators or pollinator habitats. In this subdivision, “pollinator” means an insect that pollinates flowers.