2021 SENATE BILL 544

September 2, 2021 - Introduced by Senators ROTH and FEYEN, cosponsored by Representatives CABRAL-GUEVARA, MURPHY, SCHRAA, SNODGRASS and TUSLER. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources and Energy.

AN ACT to create 30.92 (1) (bp), 30.92 (4) (b) 2. d. and 30.92 (4) (b) 8. e. of the statutes; relating to: grants for navigational buoys in the Lake Winnebago pool system.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill provides that costs relating to navigational buoys for the Lake Winnebago pool system are eligible for funding under the recreational boating facilities program.

Under current law, the Department of Natural Resources administers the recreational boating facilities program, which provides financial assistance to governmental units and qualified lake associations for the construction and rehabilitation of improvements related to recreational boating facilities, the improvement of locks, and for numerous other eligible projects. In general, DNR may provide up to 50 percent of the costs of a project, though the state share of costs may be increased by the Wisconsin Waterways Commission under certain circumstances.

The bill adds to the list of eligible projects the purchase, placement, maintenance, and removal of navigational buoys within the Lake Winnebago pool system, which is defined as Lake Winnebago, Lake Butte des Mortes, Lake Winneconne, Lake Poygan, and portions of the Wolf River and Fox River. The bill provides that DNR may pay, with the approval of the commission, up to 100 percent of the costs for these projects.
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For further information see the state and local 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. 30.92 (1) (bp) of the statutes is created to read:

30.92 (1) (bp) “Lake Winnebago pool system” means Lake Winnebago, Lake Butte des Mortes, Lake Winneconne, Lake Poygan, and the portions of the Wolf River and Fox River that are within Winnebago County, Waushara County, Outagamie County, Calumet County, or Fond du Lac County.

SECTION 2. 30.92 (4) (b) 2. d. of the statutes is created to read:

30.92 (4) (b) 2. d. Notwithstanding subd. 2. a., the department may pay, with the approval of the commission, up to 100 percent of the costs of activities under subd. 8. e.

SECTION 3. 30.92 (4) (b) 8. e. of the statutes is created to read:

30.92 (4) (b) 8. e. Purchase, placement, maintenance, and removal of navigational buoys within the Lake Winnebago pool system.