



State of Wisconsin
2021 - 2022 LEGISLATURE

LRB-1788/P1
EKL:emw

DOA:.....Quinn, BB0562 - Brownfield Program Modifications

FOR 2021-2023 BUDGET -- NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

AN ACT ...; relating to: the budget.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Modifications to brownfield grant programs

Under current law, WEDC administers a brownfields grant program and a brownfield site assessment grant program to provide grants for developing property adversely impacted by environmental contamination and conducting related activities. One condition for awarding a grant is that the person who caused the environmental contamination and, for the brownfields grant program, any person who possessed or controlled the contaminant prior to its release must be unknown, unable to be located, or financially unable to pay remediation or other specified costs. Under this bill, this condition does not apply if WEDC determines that the case has received sufficient closure from DNR. The bill specifies that a brownfields grant recipient may not be the party who caused the environmental contamination, which is a condition that already applies to brownfield site assessment grant recipients under current law. The bill also provides that, when making a grant under the brownfields grant program, WEDC must consult with DNR, rather than consider DNR's recommendations as required under current law.

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. 238.13 (2) (a) 2. (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

238.13 (2) (a) 2. (intro.) All Unless the corporation determines under its policies and procedures that the case has received sufficient closure from the department of natural resources, all of the following are unknown, cannot be located, or are financially unable to pay the cost of environmental remediation activities:

SECTION 2. 238.13 (2) (a) 4. of the statutes is created to read:

238.13 (2) (a) 4. The recipient is not the party who caused the environmental contamination that is the basis for the grant request.

SECTION 3. 238.13 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

238.13 (5) ~~Before the corporation awards~~ When making a grant under this section, the corporation shall ~~consider the recommendations of~~ consult with the department of natural resources.

SECTION 4. 238.133 (2) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

238.133 (2) (c) ~~The~~ Unless the corporation determines under its policies and procedures that the case has received sufficient closure from the department of natural resources, the corporation may only award grants under this section if the person that caused the environmental contamination that is the basis for the grant request is unknown, cannot be located or is financially unable to pay the cost of the eligible activities.

(END)