



State of Wisconsin
2025 - 2026 LEGISLATURE

LRB-1415/P1
SWB:klm&wlj

DOA:.....Martin, BB0289 - Levy Limit Modification - Cross-Border Transit Routes

FOR 2025-2027 BUDGET -- NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

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

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau
LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Levy limit exclusion for cross-municipality transit routes

Generally, under current law, local levy limits are applied to the property tax levies imposed by political subdivisions. A political subdivision may not increase its levy above its “valuation factor,” which is the greater of 0 percent or the percentage change in the political subdivision’s equalized value due to new construction, less improvements removed. Current law contains a number of exceptions to the levy limit, such as amounts a county levies for a countywide emergency medical system, for a county children with disabilities education board, and for certain bridge and culvert construction and repair.

The bill creates another exception to local levy limits. Under the bill, amounts levied by a political subdivision for costs related to new or enhanced transit services that cross adjacent county or municipal borders do not apply to the limit if the political subdivisions between which the routes operate have entered into an agreement to provide for the services and if the agreement is approved in a referendum.

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. 66.0602 (3) (p) of the statutes is created to read:

66.0602 (3) (p) 1. Subject to subd. 2., the limit otherwise applicable under this section does not apply to the amount that a political subdivision levies in that year for operating and capital costs directly related to the provision of new or enhanced transit services across adjacent county borders or across adjacent municipal

BILL**SECTION 1**

borders. For costs to be eligible for the exception under this paragraph, the starting date for the new or enhanced transit services must be on or after the effective date of this subdivision [LRB inserts date], and the costs to which the levy applies must be described in the agreement under subd. 2.

2. A political subdivision may not use the exception under this paragraph unless all of the following apply:

a. The political subdivisions between which the new or enhanced transit routes operate have entered into an intergovernmental cooperation agreement under s. 66.0301 to provide for the new or enhanced transit services. The agreement shall describe the services and the amounts that must be levied to pay for those services.

b. The agreement described in subd. 2. a. is approved in a referendum, by the electors in each political subdivision that is a party to the agreement, to be held at the next succeeding spring primary or election or partisan primary or general election to be held not earlier than 70 days after the adoption of the agreement by all of the parties to the agreement. The governing body shall file the resolution to be submitted to the electors as provided in s. 8.37.

(END)