Wisconsin Legislative Council

AMENDMENT MEMO





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2021 Senate Bill 248

Senate Amendment 1

2021 SENATE BILL 248

2021 Senate Bill 248 makes various changes to the state's electronic waste recycling program. Among these changes, the bill directs the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to create and administer a grant program to expand electronics waste recycling and recovery programs in underserved areas of the state. Funding for the grant program is provided from the environmental fund through an existing appropriation¹ for the electronic waste recycling program.

Under the bill's grant program, grants may be provided to local units of government, businesses, and nonprofit entities, including religious nonprofit entities. The grants may be awarded for the purpose of hosting a collection site or collection event, or a series of collection sites or collection events. Grants may be used to rent space or acquire materials necessary to host a collection site or collection event, advertise for a site or event, and cover staff expenses for a site or event. Additionally, grants may be used to provide for the transportation of collected electronic devices to a registered recycler, as well as other expenses allowed by DNR.

Under the grant program, a grant recipient must provide matching funds equal to at least 20 percent of the cost of the project for which the grant is awarded. The bill also specifies priority criteria for DNR to use when awarding grants.

SENATE AMENDMENT 1

Senate Amendment 1 expands eligibility for the grant program established under the bill. Specifically, Senate Amendment 1 provides that grants for collection sites or collection events may also be provided to tribal governing bodies.

BILL HISTORY

Senate Amendment 1 was offered by Senators Cowles and Smith on April 12, 2021. On April 27, 2021, the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy recommended adoption of the amendment by a vote of Ayes, 5; Noes, 0. The bill was then recommended for passage, as amended, by a vote of Ayes, 5; Noes, 0.

BK:jal

¹ Section 20.370 (4) (hr), Stats.