



## Legislative Fiscal Bureau

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Joint Committee on Finance

Paper #143

### Obsolete Grants (Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection)

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#### CURRENT LAW

*Exposition Center Grants.* These grants were created under 1993 Act 16 to support a 1995 expansion to the Dane County Exposition (Alliant Energy) Center, which was intended to ensure the annual World Dairy Expo would remain at the facility. The grants were to assist in payment of 20-year bonds issued as part of the project. The Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) provided general purpose revenues of \$240,000 annually to Dane County starting in 1994-95. Funding was reduced over time to \$182,700 beginning in 2011-12 through the grant sunset on June 30, 2014.

*Agricultural Facilities Grants.* 2007 Act 20 created an appropriation to provide grants for soybean crushing facilities, providing \$4,000,000 from the former segregated recycling fund in 2007-08 for the construction of facilities that could process greater than 20 million bushels per year. The intended recipient of the funding never broke ground, and funding was redirected in 2009 Act 28 to provide grants of approximately \$3.5 million during the 2009-11 biennium for cheese-making facility expansions and manufacturing of anaerobic digesters. The appropriation has received no funding since 2009 Act 28.

#### GOVERNOR

No provision.

#### MODIFICATION

*Exposition Center Grants.* Delete the appropriation in DATCP's agricultural assistance program for exposition center grants under s. 20.115(4)(f) of the statutes. Additionally, delete s. 93.29, which establishes requirements for provision of exposition center grants.

**Explanation:** Following their sunset on June 30, 2014, exposition center grants and related statutes are no longer necessary. Further, subsequent state support for additions at the Dane

County exposition center occurred through general fund-supported bonding as part of the 2013-15 state building program, instead of by appropriation.

*Agricultural Facilities Grants.* Delete the appropriation in DATCP's agricultural assistance program for grants for agricultural facilities under s. 20.115(4)(qm) of the statutes.

**Explanation:** The appropriation's one-time purpose to provide funds for agricultural facilities has been achieved, with all funds spent. Current law provides for no ongoing funding of the appropriation.

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