



2007 SENATE BILL 56

February 21, 2007 - Introduced by Senators BRESKE, SCHULTZ, GROTHMAN, LAZICH, COWLES, KANAVAS, ROESSLER and A. LASEE, cosponsored by Representatives FRISKE, GRONEMUS, MEYER, VOS, MURSAU, LOTHIAN, PETROWSKI, HAHN, LEMAHIEU, MUSSER, ALBERS, KAUFERT, NASS, F. LASEE, MONTGOMERY, SINICKI, TOWNSEND, GUNDERSON, M. WILLIAMS and VAN ROY. Referred to Committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 23.24 (3) (c); and *to create* 23.24 (1) (jg) of the statutes;
2 **relating to:** fees charged to qualified lake associations for certain permits to
3 control aquatic plants.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, an aquatic plant management permit issued by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is required to remove or destroy any type of aquatic plants in a body of water. Under the permitting program, certain aquatic plants are designated as invasive. These include purple loosestrife and eurasian water milfoil. Under current law, DNR establishes by rule fees for aquatic plant management permits. Currently, DNR has created a nonrefundable permit fee and a permit fee based on the size of the area to be treated as measured in acres (acreage permit fee).

This bill exempts a qualified lake association from having to pay the acreage permit fee for a lake if the purpose of the permit is limited to removing or destroying invasive aquatic plants. A qualified lake association is one that meets certain requirements, including being established for the purpose of improving or protecting a lake for the benefit of the general public and agreeing to certain limits on restricting membership.

