



State of Wisconsin  
2021 - 2022 LEGISLATURE

LRB-5954/1  
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## 2021 SENATE BILL 948

February 9, 2022 - Introduced by Senators TESTIN, MARKLEIN and BALLWEG, cosponsored by Representatives KURTZ, LOUDENBECK, EDMING, KNODL, KRUG, NOVAK and SPIROS. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources and Energy.

1     **AN ACT to repeal** 281.75 (9) (a); **to renumber and amend** 281.75 (9) (b); and  
2     **to create** 281.75 (2) (g) of the statutes; **relating to:** removing the livestock  
3     requirement under the well compensation grant program and requiring an  
4     annual report to the Joint Committee on Finance.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Under current law, the Department of Natural Resources administers a well compensation grant program, under which an individual owner or renter of a contaminated private well may apply for a grant to cover a portion of the costs to treat the water, reconstruct the well, construct a new well, connect to a public water supply, or fill and seal the well. A well that is contaminated only by nitrates, and not by any other substance, is eligible for a grant only if the well is a water supply for livestock, is used at least three months in each year, provides more than 100 gallons of water per day for consumption by livestock, and contains nitrates in excess of 40 parts per million.

This bill removes the requirement that a water supply contaminated only by nitrates be used for livestock and provide more than 100 gallons of water per day in order to be eligible for a grant under the program. Under the bill, a well that is contaminated only by nitrates is eligible for a grant if the well is used at least three months in each year and contains nitrates in excess of 40 parts per million.

The bill also requires DNR to report to the Joint Committee on Finance after the end of each fiscal year on the number of applicants under the well compensation program and the number and amount of grants provided during that fiscal year.

