



State of Wisconsin
2023 - 2024 LEGISLATURE

LRB-2443/1
ZDW:skw

2023 SENATE BILL 140

March 23, 2023 - Introduced by Senators STAFSHOLT, COWLES, MARKLEIN, NASS and SPREITZER, cosponsored by Representatives PETRYK, ZIMMERMAN, ARMSTRONG, BEHNKE, MAGNAFICI and MOSES. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources and Energy.

1 **AN ACT** *to renumber and amend* 31.385 (2) (ad); and *to create* 31.385 (2) (ad)
2 2m. and 31.385 (2) (ad) 3. of the statutes; **relating to:** financial assistance
3 limits for dam removal.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill provides that the cost limits for dam safety projects created in the 2021-23 biennial budget act (2021 Act 58) do not apply to a project to remove a dam.

Under current law, the state may contract public debt to provide financial assistance to counties, cities, villages, towns, and public inland lake protection and rehabilitation districts for maintenance, repair, modification, abandonment, or removal of a dam. Prior to 2021 Act 58, financial assistance for a dam safety project was limited to no more than 50 percent of the first \$400,000 of costs of the project and no more than 25 percent of the costs of the project that exceed \$400,000. The total amount of financial assistance for a dam safety project was limited to no more than \$400,000. However, these limits did not apply to a project to remove a dam.

2021 Act 58 provided that, beginning in the 2021-22 fiscal year, financial assistance for a dam safety project is limited to no more than 50 percent of the first \$1,000,000 of costs of the project and no more than 25 percent of the costs of the project that exceed \$1,000,000. The total amount of financial assistance for a dam safety project is limited to no more than \$1,000,000. 2021 Act 58 did not include a provision exempting dam removal from these financial limits.

