



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2005 Assembly Bill 1003

Assembly Amendment 1

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Current law provides that a farmer is eligible for a loan guarantee under the Farm Assets Reinvestment Management (FARM) Loan Guarantee Program, administered by the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority, if the farmer satisfies various eligibility requirements. One of these requirements is that the farmer is currently operating a farm premises.

Assembly Bill 1003 changes this eligibility requirement and provides that a person is eligible for a loan guarantee under this program if the person: (1) currently operates a farm premises; or (2) intends to operate a farm premises and has at least three years of farming experience including managing the day-to-day operations of a farm.

Assembly Amendment 1 specifies that loan proceeds received under the FARM program may not be used to refinance existing debt, for entertainment expenses, or for expenses related to a community-based residential facility, but may be used to refinance existing debt if the borrower is expanding an existing business. The amendment also provides that the changes made by the bill first apply to applications made on the bill's effective date.

Legislative History

Assembly Amendment 1 was offered by Representative Suder. The Assembly Committee on Rural Development adopted Assembly Amendment 1 on a vote of Ayes, 8; Noes, 0, and passed the bill, as amended, by the same vote.

On March 9, 2006, the Assembly adopted Assembly Amendment 1 on a voice vote, and passed the bill, as amended, on a voice vote.

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