

# WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

## 2019Assembly Bill 273

## **Assembly Amendment 1**

Memo published: June 24, 2019 Contact: Ethan Lauer, Staff Attorney

#### **2019 ASSEMBLY BILL 273**

**2019 Assembly Bill 273** addresses the selection of subbase<sup>1</sup> material by a contractor when submitting a competitive bid for a highway improvement project.<sup>2</sup> Specifically, the bill requires the Department of Transportation (DOT) to include in its facilities development manual a list of at least seven alternate subbase materials, and their thicknesses, that provide equivalent structural properties. The bill then requires DOT to allow a contractor to select any of those alternates in its bid.

#### ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1

**Assembly Amendment 1** provides that a DOT engineer may disallow the use of a listed subbase material for a particular highway improvement project if the engineer determines that the material would be detrimental to the project on the basis of site-specific reasons. The engineer is required to provide that determination in writing.

### **BILL HISTORY**

Representative Sanfelippo introduced Assembly Amendment 1 on June 20, 2019. On that same day, the Assembly adopted the amendment on a voice vote, and passed the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 61; Noes 35.

EL:jal

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A subbase, such as sand or gravel, supports the pavement of a highway.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> A "highway improvement" generally means construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, and processes incidental to building, fabricating, or bettering a highway, but not routine maintenance and work related to signage, lighting, and pavement markings. [s. 84.06 (1), Stats.]