
Wisconsin Legislative Council

AMENDMENT MEMO



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2019 Senate Bill 125

**Senate
Amendment 2**

BACKGROUND

The Warren Knowles-Gaylord Nelson Stewardship program is administered by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The stewardship program includes land acquisition, property development and local assistance, and recreational boating aids subprograms. Under current law, portions of unobligated amounts for these subprograms from certain fiscal years have been obligated for specific purposes. For example, under current law, DNR is directed to obligate up to \$4.5 million of the unobligated amounts for these subprograms from fiscal year 2016-17 to fund critical health and safety-related water infrastructure projects in state parks, prioritizing projects in state parks with the highest demand.

2019 SENATE BILL 125

2019 Senate Bill 125 directs DNR to obligate up to \$5.2 million of the unobligated amounts for these stewardship subprograms from fiscal years 2016-17 and 2017-18 to fund critical health and safety-related water infrastructure projects and high priority water infrastructure projects in state parks, prioritizing projects in state parks with the highest demand.

In addition, the bill increases the fiscal year 2018-19 appropriation for state park operations by \$300,000, with a priority on state parks with the highest demand.

SENATE AMENDMENT 2

Senate Amendment 2 directs DNR to obligate unobligated stewardship subprogram amounts from an additional fiscal year, 2018-19, in order to fund the state park water infrastructure projects identified in the bill. The amendment does not change the \$5.2 million cap on the total unobligated amounts that may be used for the projects in the bill.

In addition, the amendment applies the \$300,000 appropriation increase for state park operations to fiscal year 2019-20, rather than fiscal year 2018-19.

BILL HISTORY

On April 23, 2019, the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy voted to recommend 2019 Senate Bill 125, without amendment. On July 26, 2019, Senator Cowles offered Senate Amendment 2 to the bill. On November 5, 2019, the Senate adopted the amendment and passed the bill, as amended, both on voice votes.

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