2009 ASSEMBLY BILL 748

February 12, 2010 – Introduced by Representatives Vruwink, Brooks, Smith, Garthwaite, Molepske Jr., Danou, Tauchen, Suder, Petrowski, A. Ott, Mursau, Nerison, Knodl, Davis and Gunderson, cosponsored by Senators A. Lasee, Lassa, Taylor, Harsdorf and Cowles. Referred to Committee on Agriculture.

- 1 AN ACT relating to: suspension of the requirement that certain milk contractors
- 2 pay an assessment into the agricultural producer security fund.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) administers the agricultural producer security program under which DATCP licenses milk contractors, grain dealers, grain warehouse keepers, and vegetable contractors. A milk contractor is a person who buys milk from dairy farmers or who markets milk on behalf of farmers. Under current law, certain milk contractors are required to pay annual assessments into the segregated agricultural producer security fund. If a milk contractor that is required to pay into the fund defaults on its payments to dairy farmers, DATCP reimburses the farmers from the fund for a portion of their losses.

Under this bill, milk contractors are not required to pay assessments into the agricultural producer security fund for the license year that begins on May 1, 2010.

For further information see the **state** fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

ASSEMBLY BILL 748

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(1) Suspension of MILK contractor fund assessment for one license year. Notwithstanding section 126.45 (1) of the statutes, no milk contractor is required to pay a fund assessment under section 126.46 of the statutes for the license year that begins on May 1, 2010, and the department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection is not required to provide notice under section 126.46 (7) of the statutes for that license year.

7 (END)