



**WISCONSIN TOWNS
ASSOCIATION**

Empowering Town Officials

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For Immediate Release
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Wisconsin Towns Association Applauds the Enactment of Bills Supporting Towns

The Wisconsin Towns Association thanks the Legislature and Governor Evers for enacting the following bills that support towns across the state. These bills create town government operational flexibility, promote efficient and effective use of resources, and provide support to town officials.

AB 310 – Provides municipal levy limit referendum flexibility. Under this bill, a town may hold a referendum to increase its levy limit earlier in the year. This bill also provides towns with more control over the exact wording of the referendum question. WTA thanks Rep. Loudenbeck and Sen. Nass for their leadership on this bill.

AB 472 – Puts joint emergency medical services districts on the same footing as joint fire departments under the levy limit law. This bill expands the exception currently available to joint fire departments to exceed the municipal levy limit at the rate of 2% plus CPI, making it available to joint emergency medical services districts as well. WTA thanks Rep. Novak and Sen. Marklein for their leadership on this bill.

AB 607 – Increases state funding for the Length of Service Award Program. This program provides a state match of town contributions for volunteer fire fighters, first responders, and EMTs. This bill increases the state funding for the program for the current and next fiscal year. WTA thanks Rep. Mursau and Sen. Testin for their leadership on this bill.

AB 661 – Makes technical changes to sections of town law to provide efficiency and flexibility in the way towns operate. WTA worked closely with Rep. Quinn and Sen. Jacque on this bill to address a variety of concerns presented by town officials. This bill provides common sense fixes to those concerns.

AB 736 – This bill clarifies county zoning authority in shorelands and specifies that a county board may enact a zoning ordinance that applies in only part of a town. These changes ensure the proper administration of local control while adding flexibility to the local zoning process. WTA thanks Rep. Swearingen and Sen. Petrowski for their leadership on this bill.

SB369 – Ensures timely payment of federal emergency management assistance to municipalities. Under this bill, the state must process and remit funds to a town within 30 days after the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has approved a project and distributed funds to the state. This bill also provides for local training on how to apply for federal emergency management assistance. WTA thanks Sen. Marklein and Rep. Kurtz for their leadership on this bill.

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