



JESSIE RODRIGUEZ

STATE REPRESENTATIVE ★ 21ST ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Rodriguez Water Quality Bill Advances to Governor’s Desk

MADISON – Rep. Jessie Rodriguez (R-Oak Creek) applauded her colleagues in the Assembly for unanimously concurring on 2023 Senate Bill 99 ([SB 99](#)). This legislation by Rep. Rodriguez and Sen. Rob Cowles (R-Green Bay) will allow use of the Clean Water Fund Program (CWFP) for infiltration and inflow reduction projects.

“Infiltration and inflow occurs when snow melt, rainwater, or groundwater seeps into a sewer line, typically causing a large increase in the amount of water that needs to be treated by the respective wastewater treatment plant. This is one of the most expensive challenges faced by sewerage utilities,” began Rodriguez.

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) operates the Clean Water Fund Program to offer financing with lower than market interest rates to municipal wastewater utilities. Currently, under federal guidelines, the CWFP may be used for projects that will reduce infiltration and inflow, but Wisconsin statutes do not. SB 99 changes that to allow infiltration and inflow reduction projects to receive this low interest rate financing.

“SB 99 does not allocate new money,” clarified Rep. Rodriguez. “The CWFP already has an appropriation. This bill only allows for an additional use of the program.”

“This bill will primarily benefit smaller communities with populations of less than 50,000. About 350 sewerage utilities may benefit from this bill becoming law,” concluded Rodriguez.

Having passed unanimously in both houses, SB 99 now heads to the governor’s desk.

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