



State of Wisconsin
2011 - 2012 LEGISLATURE



LRB-0659/1
RNK:kpe&kjf.md

2011 ASSEMBLY BILL 166

May 31, 2011 - Introduced by Representatives MURSAU, BERNIER, BROOKS, LEMAHIEU, A. OTT, SPANBAUER and THIESFELDT, cosponsored by Senator HOLPERIN. Referred to Committee on Tourism, Recreation and State Properties.

1 **AN ACT** *to renumber and amend* 15.347 (16); and *to create* 15.347 (16) (a) and
2 15.347 (16) (b) of the statutes; **relating to:** membership on the State Trails
3 Council.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the State Trails Council (council) advises the Department of Natural Resources regarding the planning, acquisition, development, and management of state trails. The council consists of nine members, appointed by the governor for four-year terms, who are knowledgeable in various recreational uses of trails.

This bill expands the membership of the council from 9 to 15 members, and requires four of the members to be nonvoting members. The bill requires the secretaries, or their designees, of the Department of Transportation, the Department of Tourism, and the Department of Natural Resources to serve as nonvoting members of the council. The bill requires the fourth nonvoting member to be a person with expertise with regard to accessibility challenges for individuals with physical disabilities.

The bill also requires that the 11 voting members of the council each represent a specific interest group. Those groups include snowmobile operators, all-terrain

ASSEMBLY BILL 166

vehicle operators, off-road motorcycle operators, equestrians, cross-country skiers, and hikers.

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

1 **SECTION 1.** 15.347 (16) of the statutes is renumbered 15.347 (16) (intro.) and
2 amended to read:

3 15.347 (16) STATE TRAILS COUNCIL. (intro.) There is created in the department
4 of natural resources a state trails council consisting of ~~9 members, appointed for~~
5 ~~4-year terms, who are knowledgeable in the various recreational uses of trails~~ the
6 members specified in pars. (a) and (b).

7 **SECTION 2.** 15.347 (16) (a) of the statutes is created to read:

8 15.347 (16) (a) *Nonvoting members.* The state trails council shall consist of the
9 following nonvoting members:

- 10 1. The secretary of the department of transportation or his or her designee.
- 11 2. The secretary of the department of tourism or his or her designee.
- 12 3. The secretary of the department of natural resources or his or her designee.
- 13 4. One member with expertise with regard to accessibility challenges for
14 individuals with physical disabilities.

15 **SECTION 3.** 15.347 (16) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

16 15.347 (16) (b) *Voting members.* The state trails council shall consist of the
17 following voting members who shall be appointed for 4-year terms:

- 18 1. One member who represents snowmobile operators.
- 19 2. One member who represents all-terrain vehicle operators.
- 20 3. One member who represents 4-wheel drive vehicle operators.
- 21 4. One member who represents off-highway motorcycle operators.

ASSEMBLY BILL 166

- 1 5. One member who represents equestrians.
- 2 6. One member who represents recreational hikers and walkers.
- 3 7. One member who represents on-road bicyclists.
- 4 8. One member who represents mountain or off-road bicyclists.
- 5 9. One member who represents cross country skiers.
- 6 10. One member who represents skateboarders and rollerbladers.
- 7 11. One member who represents persons who engage in activities on water
- 8 trails.

9 SECTION 4. Nonstatutory provisions.

10 (1) INITIAL TERMS. Notwithstanding the length of terms specified for the voting
11 members of the state trails council under section 15.347 (16) (b) of the statutes, as
12 created by this act, the terms of the 2 initial voting members of the expanded
13 membership shall expire on July 1, 2015.

14 (2) APPOINTMENTS UPON EXPIRATION OF TERMS. Notwithstanding the
15 requirements for membership on the state trails council under section 15.347 (16) of
16 the statutes, as affected by this act, any member who is serving on the state trails
17 council on the day before the effective date of this subsection may continue to serve
18 as a member of the council under section 15.347 (16) of the statutes, as affected by
19 this act, for the term for which the member was appointed or until his or her
20 successor is appointed and qualified, whichever occurs later. Beginning on the
21 effective date of this subsection, as vacancies occur on the council, the governor shall
22 appoint members of the council in a manner that satisfies the membership
23 requirements under section 15.347 (16) of the statutes, as affected by this act.

24

(END)