

1997-98 SESSION  
COMMITTEE HEARING  
RECORDS

Committee Name:

Joint Committee on  
Finance  
(JC-Fi)

Sample:

- Record of Comm. Proceedings
- 97hrAC-EdR\_RCP\_pt01a
- 97hrAC-EdR\_RCP\_pt01b
- 97hrAC-EdR\_RCP\_pt02

- Appointments ... Appt
- 
- Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule
- 
- Committee Hearings ... CH
- 
- Committee Reports ... CR
- 
- Executive Sessions ... ES
- 
- Hearing Records ... HR
- 
- Miscellaneous ... Misc
- 97hr\_JC-Fi\_Misc\_Sept 24,1998\_pt05
- Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP
-

Sept. 24 1998

13.10 mty.



## Legislative Fiscal Bureau

One East Main, Suite 301 • Madison, WI 53703 • (608) 266-3847 • Fax: (608) 267-6873

September 3, 1998

TO: Members  
Joint Committee on Finance

FROM: Bob Lang, Director

SUBJECT: Estimated 1997-98 General Fund Ending Balance

As required under 1997 Wisconsin Act 237 (the 1997-99 budget adjustment act), this memorandum provides an estimate of the June 30, 1998, net ending balance of the state's general fund. Act 237, as partially vetoed, requires that, "No later than September 4, 1998, the Legislative Fiscal Bureau shall prepare an estimate of the net balance of the general fund as of June 30, 1998..." Based upon our review of preliminary revenue collections and expenditure data, it is our estimate that the net ending general fund balance for the 1997-98 fiscal year will be \$447 million. This is \$193 million above the balance that was projected at the conclusion of the final floor period of this legislative session. The higher balance is due to increased tax collections of \$178 million and additional departmental revenues of \$15 million. Our review of expenditures for 1997-98 does not suggest a revision, in total, to the previous estimate.

It should be noted that the revised estimates are based on preliminary reports of tax revenues for 1997-98 provided by the Department of Revenue (DOR) and preliminary information regarding departmental revenues and expenditures. Final general fund amounts for the 1997-98 fiscal year will not be available until the Annual Fiscal Report is issued by the Department of Administration in mid-October.

The following sections provide background information on the Act 237 provision and additional detail regarding preliminary actual tax collections, departmental revenues and general fund expenditures.

### **Act 237 Provision**

As passed by the Legislature, the 1997-99 budget adjustment bill (1997 Assembly Bill 768) would have required the Legislative Fiscal Bureau, no later than September 4, 1998, to prepare an estimate of the net general fund balance as of June 30, 1999, and to certify the amount by which the

estimated balance exceeds \$20 million to the Joint Committee on Finance and the Secretary of DOR.

The bill would have required the Secretary of DOR, by September 15, 1998, to submit to the Joint Committee on Finance a proposal to use the amount certified to expand the property tax/rent credit (PTRC) on the individual income tax by increasing the credit percentage or the maximum amount of property taxes or rent that may be claimed for the credit, or both. The expansion of the credit would have first applied to taxable years beginning on January 1, 1998.

The Finance Committee would have been required to either approve or modify DOR's proposal at the Committee's third quarterly meeting (September) in 1998. The bill also would have required DOR to publish the proposal, as approved or modified by the Finance Committee, in the administrative register and to modify the individual income tax forms and instructions to incorporate the modifications made to the PTRC under this provision.

In signing Act 237 into law, the Governor made a number of vetoes to the AB 768 provision. The partial veto modifies the provision to read as follows:

"No later than September 4, 1998, the legislative fiscal bureau shall prepare an estimate of the net balance of the general fund as of June 30, 1998, the secretary of revenue shall submit to the joint committee on finance a proposal to expand the school property tax credit under section 71.07(9) of the statutes by increasing the percentages or dollar amounts or both in section 71.07(9)(b) of the statutes. The proposal shall specify that the expansion of the credit as described in this paragraph shall apply to taxable years 1998. The secretary of revenue shall publish the proposal in the administrative register. The department of revenue shall modify its individual income tax forms and instructions to incorporate the changes to the school property tax credit that are made under this paragraph."

The Governor indicated in the veto message that his intent is for DOR to propose a one-time expansion of the PTRC applicable to tax year 1998. The amount by which the credit is to be expanded will equal the amount by which the fiscal year 1997-98 ending balance exceeds the amount estimated when Act 237 was signed into law (June 2, 1998), to a maximum of \$125 million.

It should be noted that the statutory provisions following the Governor's veto do not require the expansion of the PTRC to be based on any specific dollar amount or estimate. Even though the Fiscal Bureau is required to prepare an estimate of the 1997-98 general fund ending balance by September 4, 1998, the statute does not require the PTRC proposal to be based on this estimate or any other figure.

In addition, the veto removed a provision that would have required the Finance Committee to approve the Department's proposal. The Committee would also have had the authority to modify the proposal. Although DOR is still required to submit its proposal to the Committee, there is no requirement that the Committee review and approve the proposal. Nor is there authority for the Committee to modify the proposal.

### **Preliminary 1997-98 General Fund Tax Collections**

Table 1 presents a comparison of the estimated general fund tax revenues used in Act 237 and preliminary actual tax collections for 1997-98 along with the difference between the estimated and actual figures. Compared to the estimate of \$9,350.5 million used in Act 237, preliminary collections total \$9,528.2 million, an increase of \$177.7 million over the Act 237 estimates. As a percentage of total tax collections, the \$177.7 million difference is an increase of 1.9% over the estimates.

The increased revenues are primarily due to the individual income tax and sales and use tax; collections of these taxes exceeded the estimates by \$131.3 million and \$47.6 million, respectively. Public utility taxes were \$11.1 million higher than estimated, while revenues from the corporate income tax were \$17.8 million lower than projected. The remaining tax sources were, in total, \$5.5 million higher than estimated. The reduction in insurance company taxes was due to a court decision in Illinois, which found that state's premiums tax to be unconstitutional. Because of Wisconsin's retaliatory and reciprocal taxation statutes for insurance companies, Wisconsin premiums tax collections on Illinois insurers doing business in this state were reduced.

### **Departmental Revenues and General Fund Expenditures**

Departmental revenues are nontax revenues which are collected by state agencies for deposit in the general fund. For 1997-98, it is now estimated that departmental revenues will be \$174 million. This is \$15 million above the previous estimate of \$159 million. Among the reasons for increased collections in this area are additional excess federal revenues credited to the general fund by the Department of Health and Family Services, an expanded use of medical assistance for school-based services and increased activity in the Securities Division of the Department of Financial Institutions.

On the expenditure side, the net appropriations estimate of \$9,750 million has not been changed. Although a variety of individual programs will vary from projections, those modifications, in aggregate, do not suggest a revision of the previous estimate.

**TABLE 1**

**Preliminary Information on Actual General Fund  
Tax Collections for the 1997-98 Fiscal Year**

<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Fiscal Year 1997-98 General Fund Tax Revenues</u>		<u>Difference Actual from Estimated</u>	
	<u>Estimated</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Individual Income	\$4,916,000,000	\$5,047,325,000	\$131,325,000	2.67%
Sales and Use	2,999,850,000	3,047,406,000	47,556,000	1.59
Corporate Income and Franchise	644,800,000	627,024,000	- 17,776,000	-2.76
Public Utility	277,300,000	288,358,000	11,058,000	3.99
Excise Taxes				
Cigarette	245,100,000	247,743,000	2,643,000	1.08
Liquor and Wine	32,000,000	32,735,000	735,000	2.30
Beer	9,500,000	9,260,000	- 240,000	-2.53
Tobacco Products	9,700,000	9,353,000	- 347,000	-3.58
Insurance Company	95,000,000	88,060,000	- 6,940,000	-7.31
Estate and Gift	73,000,000	80,046,000	7,046,000	9.65
Miscellaneous*	<u>48,225,000</u>	<u>50,851,000</u>	<u>2,626,000</u>	<u>5.45</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$9,350,475,000</b>	<b>\$9,528,161,000</b>	<b>\$177,686,000</b>	<b>1.90%</b>

\*Includes pari-mutuel tax

**General Fund Condition Statement Comparison**

Table 2 presents a comparison of the 1997-98 general fund condition statement as projected in Spring, 1998, with a statement that uses the figures contained within this memorandum. In addition to displaying the two estimates, the table shows the differences, by item, of the two statements.

**TABLE 2**

**Estimated 1997-98 General Fund Condition Statement Comparison  
(In Millions)**

	<u>Spring, 1998</u>	<u>September, 1998</u>	<u>Difference</u>
<b>Revenues</b>			
Opening Balance, July 1, 1997	\$331	\$331	\$0
Taxes	9,350	9,528	178
Transfers from:			
Property Tax Relief Fund	258	258	0
Recycling Fund	4	4	0
Departmental Revenues	<u>159</u>	<u>174</u>	<u>15</u>
Total Available	\$10,102	\$10,295	\$193
<b>Appropriations</b>			
Gross Appropriations	\$9,776	\$9,776	\$0
Compensation Reserves	35	31	-4
Transfer to:			
Local Government Property			
Insurance Fund	2	2	0
Less Lapses	<u>-63</u>	<u>-59</u>	<u>4</u>
Net	\$9,750	\$9,750	\$0
<b>Balance</b>			
Gross Balance	\$352	\$545	\$193
Required Statutory Balance	<u>-98</u>	<u>-98</u>	<u>0</u>
Net Balance, June 30	\$254	\$447	\$193

As indicated, the purpose of this memorandum is to respond to the statutory directive of 1997 Act 237. It is important to note that the figures in this report are preliminary in nature. The final report for 1997-98 will be made available when the Annual Fiscal Report is issued by the Department of Administration in mid-October.



## STATE OF WISCONSIN \ ETHICS BOARD

James R. Morgan  
Chairman  
Paul M. Holzem  
David L. McRoberts  
Robert G. Borgwardt  
Joanne R. Orr  
Dorothy C. Johnson

On the capitol square at:  
44 EAST MIFFLIN STREET  
MADISON, WISCONSIN 53703-2800  
608 266-8123

September 2, 1998

R. Roth Judd  
Executive Director

✓ Senator Timothy Weeden, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Finance  
1 East Main, Rm203  
Madison, WI INTER-D

SEP 03 1998

Representative John Gard, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Finance  
State Capitol, RM 316N  
Madison, WI INTER-D

**Re: Likely request for supplemental  
appropriation under § 13.101(3),  
Wisconsin Statutes**

Dear Senator Weeden and Representative Gard:

From time to time matters involving possible violations of the lobbying law and ethics code come to the Ethics Board's attention and merit the Board's review. The Board investigates most of these matters using existing staff resources. However, the Legislature has not made available an appropriation that permits the Board to carryout its statutory directive to investigate these matters when that requires the hiring of special investigative assistance.

In FY 1998 the Ethics Board spent only \$6,121.46 for assistance with investigations and during the same period collected and deposited to the state school fund penalties amounting to \$1,515.00.

I will continue to exercise prudence with respect to expenditures related to enforcement of the statutes the Ethics Board administers, but I alert you that the Ethics Board may turn to your committee for a supplement to meet investigations' costs as the Joint Committee has annually prescribed since 1989.

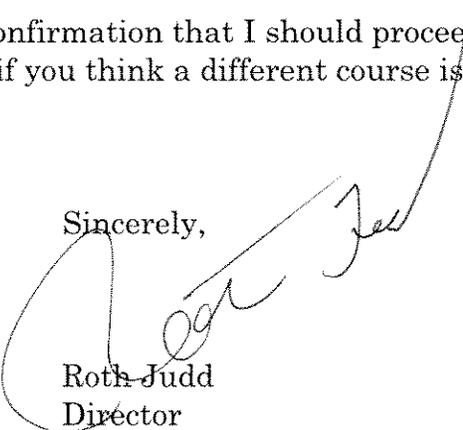
Senator Timothy Weeden  
Representative John Gard  
September 2, 1998, 1998  
Page 2

In keeping with your committee's instructions in prior years I shall expect:

1. To proceed to incur expenses in connection with the investigation of possible violations of the lobbying law and ethics code and those laws' enforcement,
2. To keep you, the co-chairs, informed of costs the Ethics Board incurs as investigations proceed, and
3. That, in order to meet the financial obligations the Ethics Board has incurred for investigations, to request supplemental funding from the Joint Committee under §13.10 *Wisconsin Statutes* for established financial obligations for work already completed.

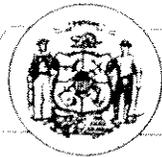
I will very much appreciate your confirmation that I should proceed in the manner just indicated or other instruction if you think a different course is more appropriate.

Sincerely,



Roth Judd  
Director

cc: Bob Lang, Legislative Fiscal Bureau  
Tricia Collins, Legislative Fiscal Bureau  
Dan Caucutt, Committee Secretary  
Deborah Uecker, Dept. of Administration



# VETERANS AFFAIRS

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS



30 West Mifflin Street, P.O. Box 7843, Madison, WI 53707-7843  
(608) 266-1311 FAX (608) 267-0403  
1-800-947-8387 (WIS VETS)  
Tommy G. Thompson, Governor  
Raymond G. Boland, Secretary

June 1, 1998

SEP 03 1998

Senator Timothy Weeden, Co-Chair  
Representative John Gard, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Finance

Dear Senator Weeden and Representative Gard:

From the appropriation under s. 20.485 (2) (vg), the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) makes grants to eligible veterans for health care aid to needy veterans. Under Chapter VA 2.01(2)(b), Wisconsin Administrative Code, not more than \$50,000 of the funding authority for the Health Care Aid Grant (HCAG) program can be expended for dentures. Although the demand for HCAGs has increased from \$222,100 in FY 92 to \$885,900 in FY 98, the cap on dentures has remained the same. The department is proposing to implement an emergency rule change that would increase the denture cap to 25-percent of the amount of expenditure authority appropriated for the program.

### Request

The Department of Veterans Affairs requests Joint Committee on Finance approval of an increase in expenditure authority in FY 99 of \$285,000 SEG in Appropriation 20.485 (2) (vg), Health Care Aid Grants. The requested expenditure authority is needed to cover the additional costs related to increasing the denture cap to 25% of the funding authorized for the program. The total amount of expenditure authority available for the program would be \$1,200,000. It is projected that FY 99 demand for non-denture related care will be approximately \$900,000. This means that \$300,000 would be available to fund dentures. Based on past experience, it is expected that \$300,000 should be sufficient to cover the demand for dentures. It is also requested that the increase in expenditure authority be base building. This will insure that the department will be able to meet future demand as well. There is no negative impact on the Veterans Trust Fund as a result of the request. The cash balance of the Trust Fund as of June 30, 1998 was at \$28.8 million.

### Background

Under the Health Care Aid Grant (HCAG) program, veterans and their families may qualify for a grant that helps pay for medical treatment and hospitalization if they are unable to pay for such costs. The maximum amount for a grant is \$5,000 per person per 12-month period. The grant may be used to cover payments for all types of essential medical services, such as hospital and physician charges, some dental care, including dentures and denture repair, eye glasses or contact lenses, and hearing aids. This is a financial needs based program where an applicant must have exhausted all of his/her financial resources in order to qualify for a grant.

In FY 91, a substantial portion of the funding available for the HCAG program was expended for dentures. To insure that funding would be available for other types of medical care, the amount available for dentures was capped at \$35,000 in FY 92 and \$50,000 beginning in FY 93. The amount of the denture cap has not been increased since that time. Based on the current cap, only about 5-percent of the available funding could be used for dentures. As a

result, the denture care needs of a substantial number of veterans and their families are not being met. This has a significantly negative effect on the health and welfare of the affected veterans. To address this problem, the department will be initiating an emergency administrative rule change that establishes a denture cap of 25% of the amount appropriated for the HCAG program. This action is strongly supported by the County Veterans Service Officers and the veteran community. The Wisconsin Board of Veterans Affairs has approved both the rule change and promulgation as an emergency rule pending the approval of the additional expenditures as follows:

How Request Meets Statutory Criteria for s. 13.10

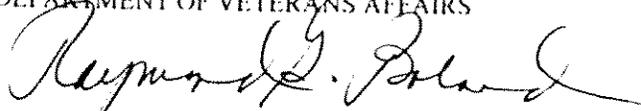
The request meets the criteria under s. 13.101 (3) because of the following reasons:

- Without the requested increase in expenditure authority, the department could not meet FY 99 additional demand for HCAGs that would result from raising the denture cap.
- Meeting those obligations is consistent with the legislative intent for the economic assistance provided under s. 45.351, Wis. Stats., including Health Care Aid Grants.
- No other funds are available to fund the increase in FY99 Health Care Aid Grant obligations related to dentures that would result from raising the denture cap.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact John Scocos at 266-3081.

Sincerely,

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS



RAYMOND G. BOLAND  
SECRETARY



STATE OF WISCONSIN  
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION  
101 East Wilson Street, Madison, Wisconsin

TOMMY G. THOMPSON  
GOVERNOR  
MARK D. BUGHER  
SECRETARY

Mailing Address:  
Post Office Box 7864  
Madison, WI 53707-7864



September 3, 1998

The Honorable Timothy Weeden  
Senate Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Finance  
1 East Main Street, Room 203  
Madison, WI 53702

The Honorable John Gard  
Assembly Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Finance  
315 North, State Capitol  
Madison, WI 53702

Dear Senator Weeden and Representative Gard:

Attached is the first of two progress reports regarding implementation of the revised memorandum of understanding between the Departments of Administration (DOA), Commerce (Commerce) and Natural Resources (DNR) concerning the PECFA program. As required by 1998 Act 237, this report is submitted for Joint Committee on Finance consideration at its September 1998, s. 13.10 meeting. These progress reports are intended to communicate the efforts of the two agencies toward limiting cleanup costs and speeding site closures.

Both agencies have worked diligently in seeking ways to streamline the site investigation and closure process. Furthermore, significant progress has been made in linking the site databases of the two agencies in order to ensure that sites are being appropriately classified and assigned. Given the complex nature of cleanup work and the multitude of sites involved, discussions regarding changes to procedures to more rapidly investigate and close sites have at times been time consuming. However, staff and management of both agencies are to be commended for their commitment to the process.

The attached report represents much work that is in progress and a data reporting system that needs significant refinement. The document also summarizes efforts made during eight MOU meetings held over the last 3 months. Key elements of the report are summarized below:

Unclassified sites and case assignment: DNR reviewed the status of all sites by June 12, 1998, as required in the MOU, and provided Commerce and DOA with a report. Approximately 16% of all sites identified on the DNR database do not have a classification primarily due to lack of a site investigation report. All other sites have been classified and assigned to the appropriate agency based on priority level. Classification and assignment of new sites to the appropriate agency by consultants has begun on a pilot basis. This streamlining effort will be reviewed by both agencies by March 31, 1999.

Classification of sites: As of September 2, 1998, a total of 10,916 sites had been identified on both the Commerce and DNR databases. Of that number, 8,758 sites (80%) are assigned to DNR and 2,158 sites (20%) are under Commerce jurisdiction.

Another 5,571 sites in the DNR database still need to be reconciled with Commerce records. An unknown number of these sites may be PECFA-eligible. Of the 10,916 sites appearing in both databases, 4,946 sites (45%) have been closed. Over 75% of the sites closed under DNR jurisdiction and 70% of sites closed under Commerce jurisdiction were completed within four years. Based on site classification criteria defined in the MOU, primarily due to groundwater contaminants exceeding the preventive action limit, approximately 62% of active sites in the database are classified as high priority. A review of all active and closed sites on the database finds that 45% have been classified as high priority.

Mini-investigations: This is an area where both agencies agree that there may be sites that can be rapidly investigated and closed at relatively low cost. They continue to work toward developing an implementation procedure that gathers enough information at the lowest possible cost to ensure a complete cleanup. Critical steps yet to be completed include outlining the scope of these procedures and developing guidance documents for agency staff and the public. The agencies are resolved to completing these tasks as soon as possible.

Public bidding and bundling of sites: In response to Commerce's latest emergency rule for the PECFA program, the mix of sites with lower cost cleanup plans appears to have improved dramatically. The emergency rule establishes an \$80,000 cost cap for sites that agree to adhere to the cap in exchange for less department oversight and quicker claim review. In the three months prior to implementation of the emergency rule, 16.6% of 390 submitted site plans were for less than \$120,000. Since the effective date of the emergency rule, 31.3% of 128 submitted site plans were for \$80,000 or less.

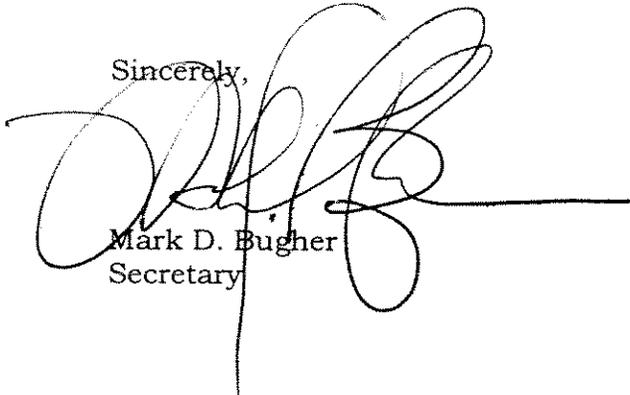
Bundling of sites is still in the very early stages of implementation. However, on the one bundle that has moved forward, savings of \$213,000 were achieved through lower excavation, disposal and backfilling costs. Commerce has also noticed increased interest in this approach from site owners. Conclusions from the initial stages of this initiative are that high quality investigations are critical and that creative strategies may be necessary to address unavoidable cost overruns.

The great majority of the effort over the last three months has been focused on reconciling a variety of data to ensure sites are appropriately classified and assigned to the two agencies. The next six months will focus on continued streamlining of the site closure process, including a more complete plan for implementing mini-

Senator Timothy Weeden and Representative John Gard  
September 3, 1998  
Page 3

investigations at appropriate sites. All three agencies have embraced the need to bring together their respective expertise toward ensuring a successful cleanup program at the lowest possible cost.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Bugher', is written over the typed name and title. The signature is highly cursive and extends to the right with a long horizontal stroke.

Mark D. Bugher  
Secretary

CC: Members, Joint Committee on Finance  
Bob Lang  
Representative Johnsrud  
Representative Duff  
Secretary McCoshen  
Secretary Meyer

**Roberts, Dianna**

**From:** Hanson, Lori  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 03, 1998 8:20 AM  
**To:** Harmelink, Diane; Roberts, Dianna  
**Cc:** 'Dar'  
**Subject:** 13.10's

Here's MY list of 13.10 requests that are received:

- ✓DOT - Oneida tribe vehicle license plates
- ✓DOR - Social Security numbers
- ✓OCRR - Using DOT \$\$
- ✓Wets -- \$285,000 SEG for Health care aid grants
- ✓Commerce - enterprise development zones
- ✓Commerce - WI Challenge Grant program
- ✓FI&FS - background checks
- ✓DWVD - DVR
- ✓DER - 16.515 that was objected to on training services
- ✓WV - 16.505 that was objected to on intercollegiate athletics

Do either of you have anything that I haven't received?

State Representative

**TERRY MUSSER**

92<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District



**Chair, Assembly Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs**

September 4, 1998

Representative John Gard, Co-Chair  
Senator Timothy Weeden, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Finance

RE: WDVA 13.10 Request

Dear John and Tim:

I fully support the request from the WI Department of Veterans Affairs for approval of 13.10 expenditure authority within the Health Care Aid Grants (HCAG) appropriation.

The HCAG program helps pay for veterans' medical treatment and hospitalization if they are unable to pay. It is based on financial need after the all other financial resources have been exhausted.

The Department's request will make sufficient funds from that program available for denture-related care, without a negative impact on the Veterans Trust Fund. It would make 25% of the HCAG funds available for dentures, instead of the current 5-percent. The current cap was set for FY 93, and the number of veterans requiring dentures is increasing as the group ages.

I urge you to approve this increase in expenditure authority to the Department of Veterans Affairs at the Committee's September 24, 1998, meeting.

Thank you.

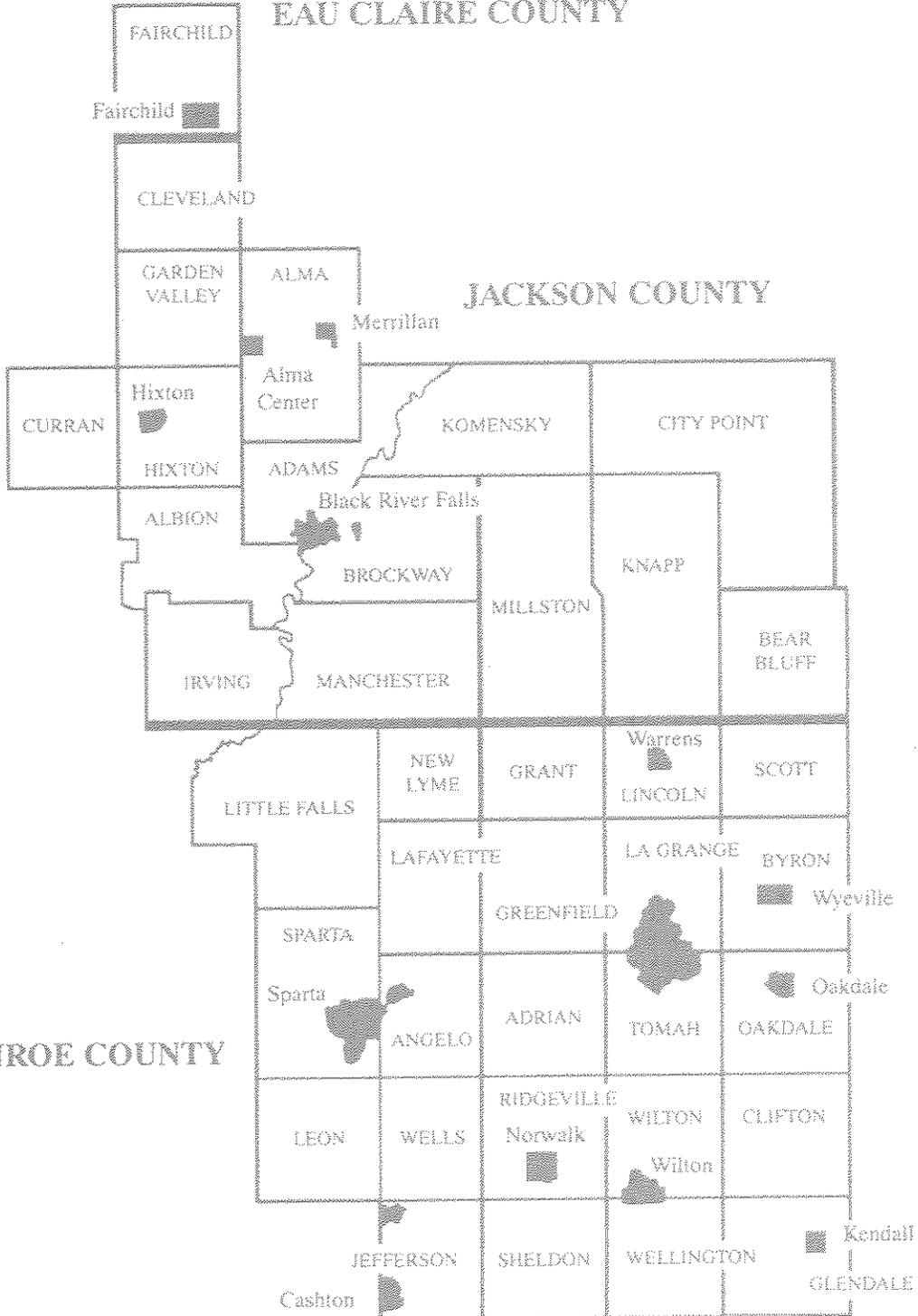
Sincerely,

  
Terry Musser  
State Representative  
92nd Assembly District

Madison Office: PO Box 8953, Madison, WI 53708 608-266-7461 Toll Free: 1-888-534-0092  
Fax: 608-282-3692 E-Mail: rep.musser@legis.state.wi.us

District Office: W13550 Murray Road, Black River Falls, WI 54615 608-488-2955

EAU CLAIRE COUNTY



JACKSON COUNTY

MONROE COUNTY



WISCONSIN STATE SENATE

**RODNEY C. MOEN**

SENATOR - 31ST DISTRICT

---

State Capitol, P.O. Box 7882, Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7882 Phone: (608) 266-8546 Toll-free Hotline: 1-800-362-9472

September 4, 1998

Senator Tim Weeden, Co-Chair  
Representative John Gard, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Finance  
PO Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Senator Weeden and Representative Gard:

I am writing on behalf of Department of Veterans Affairs (DAV) and Wisconsin veterans in support of a DVA proposal to implement an emergency rule change that would increase the cap on denture expenditures to 25-percent of the amount of expenditure authority appropriated to the Health Care Aide Grant (HCAG) program.

The HCAG program offers needy veterans and their families grants to assist in medical treatment and hospitalization payments if the veteran is unable to do so. Current statutory requirements - established in 1993 - provide that the program may expend no more than \$50,000 for dentures. The maximum amount for a grant is \$5,000 per individual. However, HCAG funding and demand have increased substantially since then. Current demand for dentures now approaches \$300,000 annually. Approval of this request will increase the availability of dentures to state veterans

This proposal has the support of the County Veterans Service Officers and the veteran community. I request your support and assistance by approving the departments expenditure authority request at the next 13.10 meeting.

Thank you for your consideration and assistance on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rod".

Rodney C. Moen

cc: Secretary Ray Boland



September 8, 1998

SEP 09 1998

SEP 09 1998

The Hon. Timothy Weeden  
Senate Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Finance  
1 East Main, Room 203  
Madison, Wisconsin

The Hon. John Gard  
Assembly Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Finance  
315-N State Capitol  
Madison, Wisconsin

Dear Senator Weeden and Representative Gard:

According to 1995 Wisconsin Act 445, the Joint Committee on Finance "...shall supplement, from the appropriation under s.20.865(4)(c), the appropriation to the Wisconsin Sesquicentennial Commission under s.20.525(l)(k) upon receipt of documentation of the amounts of gifts and grants received by the commission under s.20.245(4)(h). The supplement under this subsection shall equal \$1 for each dollar received by the commission as a gift or grant. This subsection does not apply to the first \$250,000 received by the commission as gifts or grants." Further, as part of the language inserted in the FY 1997-1998 state budget, the Commission is now allowed to also recognize as part of the match, cash gifts or grants that are pledges. Funds requested are to provide grants to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Wisconsin statehood.

On March 27, 1997, based on Commission gifts and grants deposits of \$297,055 the Joint Committee on Finance approved releasing \$47,100 in state funds to the Commission. On June 20, 1997, based on additional Commission gifts and grants deposits of \$67,153 the Joint Committee on Finance approved releasing \$67,153 in state funds to the Commission. On December 18, 1997, based on Commission gifts and grants deposits of \$160,430 as well as pledged gifts and grants funds of \$439,667 the Joint Committee on Finance approved releasing \$600,097 in state funds to the Commission. On June 4, 1998, based on Commission gifts and grants deposits of \$128,833 as well as pledged gifts and grants funds of \$255,334, the Joint Committee on Finance approved releasing \$384,167 in state funds to the Commission.

Since April 24, 1998, the Wisconsin Sesquicentennial Commission has deposited \$120,600 of gifts and grants donations and has received documentation for \$30,000 pledges to the Sesquicentennial for a total of \$150,600. The Wisconsin Sesquicentennial

## WISCONSIN SESQUICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

8 South Carroll Street \* P.O. Box 1848 \* Madison, Wisconsin 53701-1848 \* Phone: (608) 264-7990 \* Fax: (608) 264-7994  
Co-chaired by Governor Tommy G. Thompson \* Governor Lee Sherman Dreyfus \* Governor Patrick J. Lucey



Commission requests consideration under s.13.10 for formal recognition of a \$150,600 release in state funds.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 264-7992 should you have any questions or need further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dean Amhaus', written over a horizontal line.

Dean Amhaus  
Executive Director

Encl: Chart of sponsorship pledges  
Copies of sponsorship pledge letters  
Copies of checks deposited 4/24/97 – 9/8/98

Cc: Bob Lang  
Dan Caucutt

**MARLIN D. SCHNEIDER**  
**State Representative**

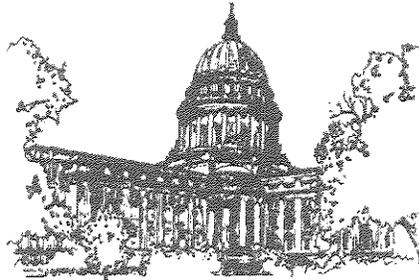
72nd Assembly District

**Office:**

State Capitol  
P.O. Box 8953  
Madison, WI 53708  
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Toll-free: 1-888-529-0072  
Email: Rep.Schneider@legis.state.wi.us

**Home:**

3820 Southbrook Lane  
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494  
(715) 423-1223



**WISCONSIN STATE ASSEMBLY**  
**ASSISTANT MINORITY LEADER**

September 10, 1998

**Member:**

Committee on Assembly Organization  
Committee on Education  
Educational Communications Board  
Committee on Government Operations  
Joint Committee on Information Policy  
Council on Information Technology  
Joint Legislative Council  
Joint Committee on Legislative Organization  
Joint Survey Committee on Retirement Systems  
Committee on Rules  
Committee on Rural Affairs  
State Capitol and Executive Residence Board  
Joint Survey Committee on Tax Exemptions  
Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs  
National Conference of State Legislatures  
Council of State Governments

Senator Tim Weeden, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Finance  
1 E. Main, Room 203  
Madison, WI 53702

Dear Tim:

It is my understanding that in its September 24, 1998, 13.10 meeting the Joint Committee on Finance will be addressing a request from the Department of Veterans Affairs. The Department has asked for an increase in expenditure authority in FY 99 of \$285,000 SEG for Health Care Aid Grants.

The increased expenditure authority is needed to cover the additional costs related to increasing the denture cap to 25% of the funding authorized under the Health Care Aid Grants.

Although some may argue that such a request should more appropriately be addressed in the Biennial Budget there is a counter-argument that the funds are needed NOW. I have a constituent who is a Korean War Veteran. He is in tremendous discomfort and would like to take advantage of the denture portion of the Health Care Aid Grant program but is prevented from exercising his need because of the current \$50,000 cap on denture expenditures. How would you like it if you were in dire need of dentures but forced to wait through an entire budget process?

I am therefore requesting your positive consideration of the Department's request.

Thank you in advance for your help.

Sincerely,

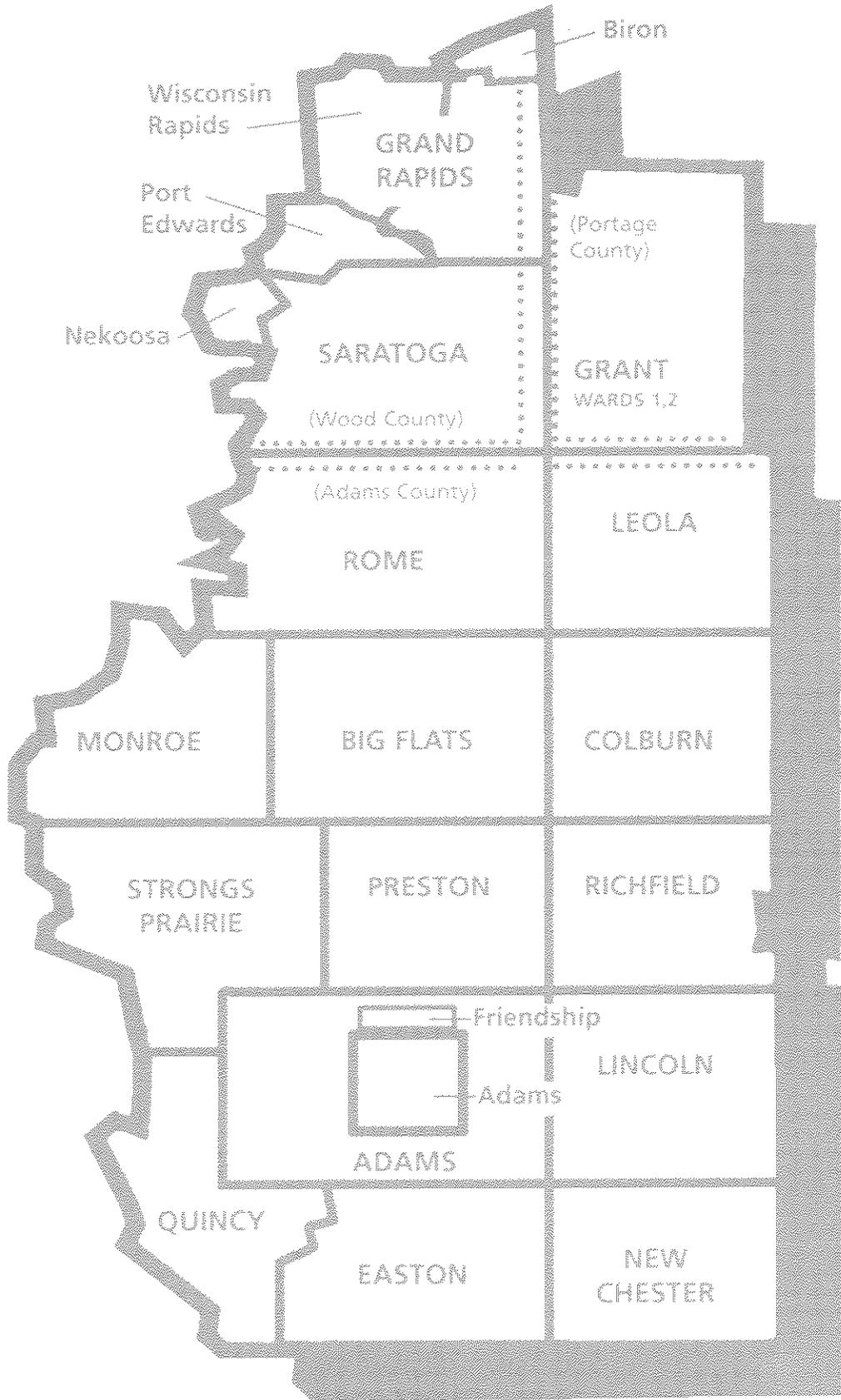
MARLIN D. SCHNEIDER  
Assistant Minority Leader

jpf

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*"Your representative owes you, not his industry only, but his judgment; and he betrays, instead of serving you, if he sacrifices it to your opinion." – Edmund Burke Nov. 3, 1774*

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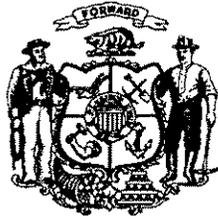


***The 72nd Assembly District  
of Wisconsin***

# THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

SENATE CHAIR  
TIMOTHY WEEDEN

1 E. Main Street, Room 230  
P.O. Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707-7882  
Phone: (608) 266-2253



ASSEMBLY CHAIR  
JOHN GARD

315-N Capitol  
P.O. Box 8952  
Madison, WI 53708-8952  
Phone: (608) 266-2343

## JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

**Date:** September 10, 1998  
**To:** The Members, Joint Committee on Finance  
**From:**  Dan Caucutt, Secretary for s. 13.10 Actions

The next regular meeting of the Joint Committee on Finance under s. 13.10 is scheduled for Thursday, September 24, 1998 at 1:30 p.m. on the First Floor of 119 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

The status of the committee's biennial GPR supplementation and loan appropriation [s. 20.865(4)(a)] is summarized on the attachment.

Fourteen items are currently scheduled for committee action, including two requests previously submitted to the Committee under s. 16.515. In addition, there will be three or more reports submitted.

The Governor's recommendations on the requests and State Budget Office analyses of them will be distributed to the members on September 18, 1998, along with the formal agenda. The Fiscal Bureau will distribute its own analyses of the requests. Materials in the September 18 distribution will be organized by tabbed section dividers marked with the Roman numerals in the upper-right corner of the attached requests.

The following is a summary of the items in the order that they will be heard on September 24, 1998.

### I. Department of Health and Family Services -- John Kiesow, Executive Assistant

Under 1997 Act 27, the Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS) is required to perform criminal background reviews on many types of employees and business owners who provide direct care to children and vulnerable adults. DHFS requests a supplement

of \$1,148,500 GPR in 1998-99 from the Committee's s. 20.865(4)(a) appropriation to the appropriation under s. 20.435(8)(a), to perform the workload and develop information technology systems mandated by these 1997 Act 27 provisions. DHFS also requests 35.0 GPR FTE project positions to implement the start-up phase of the caregiver background check provisions. The ongoing costs in 1999-00 are \$401,100 GPR.

The department also requests a supplement of \$39,500 PRO to its appropriation under s. 20.435 (6)(jm) for processing and mailing the results of background checks to the requesting facility or provider.

II. Department of Commerce -- Christopher Mohrman, Executive Assistant

The department requests authorization of 1.0 GPR FTE Program and Planning Analyst 4 project position ending January 1, 2000, and a supplement of \$54,000 GPR from the Committee's appropriation under s. 20.865(4)(a), to the appropriation under s. 20.505 (4) (fm), to assist in the administration of the Wisconsin Promise Challenge Grants Program.

III. Department of Commerce -- Christopher Mohrman, Executive Assistant

Pursuant to s. 560.797(2)(d), the department requests authorization to designate 50 additional Enterprise Development Zones to provide tax credits to businesses that create or retain jobs for target group members.

IV. Department of Transportation -- Charles H. Thompson, Secretary

The department, pursuant to s. 341.409, requests approval to enter into a reciprocal motor vehicle registration exemption agreement with the Oneida Tribe of Wisconsin.

V. Office of the Commissioner of Railroads -- Rodney Kruenen, Commissioner

The office requests the one-time transfer of \$500,000 SEG funding from the appropriation under s. 20.390(2)(gx) to the appropriation under s. 20.155(2)(m) to fund the installation of automatic warning devices at highway crossings as ordered by the office.

VI. Department of Revenue -- Cate S. Zeuske, Secretary

The department requests a supplement of \$142,000 GPR in 1998-99 under appropriation s. 20.566 (1) (a) from the unreserved balance in the Committee's s. 20.865(4)(a) appropriation. The funds would provide confidentiality of taxpayers' social security numbers and expand income tax returns and forms to accommodate 1997 tax law changes. Of the amount, \$58,800 is requested as additional base funding.

VII. Legislative Reference Bureau -- Steve Miller, Chief

The bureau requests 7.0 GPR FTE's to create supervisory positions in the bureau and the simultaneous abolishment of seven current positions, with no net increase. The bureau also requests the creation of two new legislative attorney positions to assume a portion of the legal work to improve services by increasing the attorneys' duplicate specialization in drafting areas. The bureau requests a supplement of \$110,000 GPR in fiscal year 1998-99 from the committee's appropriation under s. 20.865(4)(a) to the bureau's s. 20.765(3)(b) appropriation to fund this request.

VIII. Wisconsin Sesquicentennial Commission -- Dean Amhaus, Executive Director

The commission requests approval of the transfer of \$150,600 GPR from the Committee's appropriation under s. 20.865(4)(c) to the commission's appropriation under s. 20.525(1)(k) upon receipt of documentation of the amounts of gifts, grants and pledges received by the commission.

IX. Department of Administration -- Richard G. Chandler, State Budget Director

Pursuant to s. 20.907 (1) the department requests the Committee's approval to accept gifts of \$10.00 and \$2.00, that have been given to the State of Wisconsin. The donors of the gifts have requested that the gifts be deposited in the budget stabilization fund. Until approval is given these funds have been deposited in the general fund.

X. Department of Employment Relations -- Jon E. Litscher, Secretary

The department requests an increase of \$149,300 PRO in spending authority and 1.0 PRO FTE project position in 1998-99 for the employe development and training services appropriation under s. 20.512(1)(jm). Of this amount, \$83,900 PRO is an annualized, ongoing increase in spending authority to support departmental training activities. This request was originally submitted under s. 16.515. An objection was raised by the Committee and the request was scheduled for a meeting under s. 13.10.

XI. Department of Veterans Affairs -- Raymond Boland, Secretary

The department requests a base-building supplement of \$285,000 SEG in 1998-99 from the Veterans Trust Fund, through the Committee's appropriation under s. 20.865(4) (u), to the health care aids grant appropriation under s. 20.485(2)(vg), to cover the additional costs of increasing the denture cap to 25% of the funding authorized for this purpose in the Health Care Aid Grant Program.

XII. University of Wisconsin System, UW-Madison, Division of Intercollegiate Athletics  
-- John Torphy, Vice Chancellor, UW-Madison

The UW System requests the creation of 20.83 PRO FTE positions and increased expenditure authority of \$304,377 in 1998-99 in the agency's auxiliary enterprises appropriation under s. 20.285(5)(h). The requested expenditure authority includes funding for 5.82 PRO FTE positions that would expand staff in the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics and for additional fringe benefit costs associated with the conversion of an equivalent of 15.01 PRO FTE positions from LTE positions to permanent positions. This request was originally submitted under s. 16.515. An objection was raised by the Committee and the request was scheduled for a meeting under s. 13.10.

XIII. State Historical Society of Wisconsin -- George Vogt, Director

The State Historical Society requests the transfers of 1.0 GPR FTE unclassified position from the executive and administrative services general program operations appropriation under s. 20.245(4)(a) to the historic and burial sites preservation general program operations appropriation under s. 20.245(3)(a) and 1.0 GPR FTE classified position from the appropriation under s. 20.245(3)(a) to the appropriation under s. 20.245(4)(a).

XIV. Department of Workforce Development -- Linda Stewart, Secretary

The department requests the transfer of \$338,500 GPR from the Committee's appropriation under s. 20.865(4)(a) and \$83,600 GPR from the vocational rehabilitation services general program operations appropriation under s. 20.445(5)(a) to the vocational rehabilitation services purchased services for clients appropriation under s. 20.445(5)(bm), to prevent federal funds for vocational rehabilitation from lapsing.

Reports

- R-1 Department of Administration Position Reports Required Under s. 16.50.
- R-2 Ethics Board Likely Request for Supplemental Funding to Hire Special Investigative Assistance
- R-3 PECFA Program

Attachment

**SUMMARY**  
**JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**  
**GPR APPROPRIATION STATUS**  
(Incorporating Committee Actions thru July 30, 1998)

	1997-98	1998-99	1997-99 Biennium	Releases to Date	Remaining Balance
<b>Current Biennial Appropriation Amount [s. 20.865(4)(a)]</b>	<b>\$46,318,275</b>	<b>\$58,132,600</b>	<b>\$104,450,875</b>		
<u>Reserved For:</u>					
DOA -- Budget system redesign consultant's study	\$60,000	\$0	\$60,000	\$0	\$60,000
DOC -- Probation and parole absconder unit	702,700	1,025,600	1,728,300	1,728,300	0
DOC -- St. John's Correctional Center expansion	0	991,800	991,800	0	991,800
ETF -- SIPD supplemental annuity payments	2,650,400	3,547,100	6,197,500	0	6,197,500
DOR -- Integrated computer system	1,257,100	203,500	1,460,600	1,460,600	0
DHFS -- Prevention grants	744,800	1,489,700	2,234,500	0	2,234,500
DHFS -- Adoption assistance	187,200	0	187,200	0	187,200
DHFS -- Medical assistance administration	468,300	0	468,300	468,300	0
DHFS -- Women's health initiative	2,200,000	1,300,000	3,500,000	2,900,000	600,000
DWD -- KIDS system	5,570,300	11,055,900	16,626,200	16,287,700	338,500
DWD -- Centralized receipt and disbursement for child support	0	117,100	117,100	117,100	0
DPI -- School for the Visually Handicapped maintenance funds	17,200	17,200	34,400	17,200	17,200
DPI -- School for the Deaf maintenance funds	74,000	74,000	148,000	74,000	74,000
ELECTIONS BD -- Electronic filing enhancement	102,800	0	102,800	102,800	0
DOA - Compensation reserves supplement	1,326,000	674,000	2,000,000	0	2,000,000
DOC -- Additional contract beds	7,431,496	10,100,000	17,531,496	16,749,200	782,296
DHFS -- Criminal background checks	0	1,920,000	1,920,000	274,400	1,645,600
DHFS -- BadgerCare	0	16,600,000	16,600,000	0	16,600,000
UW -- BadgerNet	1,470,000	1,470,000	2,940,000	2,940,000	0
UW -- Technology infrastructure and faculty technology	1,060,800	3,307,200	4,368,000	4,368,000	0
Public Land Sales Reserve (see attached summary sheet)	282,879	0	282,879	140,200	142,679
DOC -- Pay plan supplements reserve	0	1,729,600	1,729,600	0	1,729,600
DOC -- Racine food service costs	117,300	645,700	763,000	117,300	645,700
SPD -- Pay plan supplements reserve	242,800	524,400	767,200	0	767,200
SPD -- Restoration of budget reductions	0	987,600	987,600	0	987,600
DOA -- Compensation reserves supplement	20,000,000	0	20,000,000	0	20,000,000
<b>Sub-total Reserved Balance</b>	<b>\$45,966,075</b>	<b>\$57,780,400</b>	<b>\$103,746,475</b>	<b>\$47,745,100</b>	<b>\$56,001,375</b>
<u>Releases from Reserved Balance</u>					
DHFS -- Women's health initiative (12/18/97)	\$1,700,000	\$1,200,000	\$2,900,000		
DWD -- KIDS System (12/18/97)	5,231,800	0	5,231,800		
Elections Board -- Electronic filing enhancement (12/18/97)	102,800	0	102,800		
DOC -- Probation and parole absconder unit (12/18/97)	446,900	1,025,600	1,472,500		
DPI -- School for Visually Handicapped maintenance funds (12/18/97)	17,200	0	17,200		
DPI -- School for the Deaf maintenance funds (12/18/97)	74,000	0	74,000		
UW -- Technology infrastructure and faculty technology (12/18/97)	1,060,800	3,307,200	4,368,000		
UW -- BadgerNet (12/18/97)	1,470,000	1,470,000	2,940,000		
DCR -- Integrated computer system (6/4/98)	45,000	1,415,600	1,460,600		
DHFS -- Criminal background checks (6/4/98)	120,300	154,100	274,400		
DOC -- Release from KIDS reserve (6/23/98)	0	448,200	448,200		
DOC -- Release from probation & parole absconder unit reserve (6/23/98)	255,800	0	255,800		
DOC -- Release from contract beds (6/23/98)	6,649,200	10,100,000	16,749,200		
DOC -- Release from Racine food service costs (6/23/98)	117,300	0	117,300		
DHFS -- Medical assistance administration (6/23/98)	468,300	0	468,300		
DHFS -- Release from public land sales reserve (6/23/98)	140,200	0	140,200		
DWD -- KIDS System (6/23/98)	0	10,607,700	10,607,700		
DWD -- Centralized receipt and disbursement for child support (6/23/98)	0	117,100	117,100		
<b>Total Releases</b>	<b>\$17,899,600</b>	<b>\$29,845,500</b>	<b>\$47,745,100</b>		
<b>Remaining Reserved Balance</b>	<b>\$28,066,475</b>	<b>\$27,934,900</b>	<b>\$56,001,375</b>		
<b>Net Unreserved Balance Available</b>	<b>\$352,200</b>	<b>\$352,200</b>	<b>\$704,400</b>		
<u>Releases from Unreserved Balance</u>					
Elections Board -- Electronic filing enhancement (12/18/97)	\$12,000	\$0	\$12,000		
DATCP -- Food inspection program efficiency study (12/18/97)	50,000	50,000	100,000		
HEAB -- Program assistant position (12/18/97)	19,700	33,100	52,800		
RRC -- Salary shortfall and actuarial studies (6/4/98)	51,500	45,100	96,600		
<b>Total Releases</b>	<b>\$133,200</b>	<b>\$128,200</b>	<b>\$261,400</b>		
<b>Net Unreserved Balance Remaining</b>	<b>\$219,000</b>	<b>\$224,000</b>	<b>\$443,000</b>		
<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE</b> (Net Reserved & Unreserved Balance Remaining)	<b>\$28,285,475</b>	<b>\$28,158,900</b>	<b>\$56,444,375</b>		



**Scott Gunderson**



Wisconsin State Legislature  
83rd Assembly District Representative

September 10, 1998

Representative John Gard, Co-Chair  
Senator Timothy Weeden, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Finance

RE: WDVA 13.10 Request

Dear John & Tim,

I am writing to express my support for the request from the Department of Veterans Affairs for the approval of expenditure authority within the Health Care Aid Grants appropriation.

The grant helps pay for medical treatment and hospitalization of Veterans and their families if they are unable to pay for such costs. In 1991, a cap was placed on the amount available for dentures and has not been raised since that time. The department needs the funding raised from the current 5% of the HCAG program to 25% to meet the denture care needs of Veterans and their families that are not currently being met.

This will make sufficient funds available for denture related care without a negative impact on the Veterans Trust Fund.

I urge you to approve the increase in the Department's expenditure authority at the Committee's September 24, 1998 meeting.

Sincerely,

Rep. Scott Gunderson  
83<sup>rd</sup> District  
Wisconsin State Assembly

SLG;kmr

DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES



Office of Michael L. "Gunner" Furgal, State Commander

1517 15th Ave. • Monroe, Wisconsin 53566

Phone: 608-325-2670 • Fax: 608-325-2725 • E-mail: rosie2@utelco.tds.net

9/10/98

Senator Timothy Weeden, Co-Chair  
Representative John Gard, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Finance

Dear Senator Weeden, Representative Gard & Committee:

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Wisconsin, is always concerned about the welfare of the Veterans of Wisconsin. As State Commander of the VFW of Wisconsin I request that you give consideration to the following.

I am aware that the Department of Veterans Affairs has requested the joint Committee on Finance to approve an increase in expenditure authority FY 99 of \$285,000 SEG in appropriation 20.485 (2) (vg) Health Care Grants.

Without going into any further detail, I urge the Committee consider and approve this increase in the expenditure authority as requested by the DVA.

Respectfully,

*Michael L Furgal*

Michael Furgal, Commander  
Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Department of Wisconsin



**DALE W. SCHULTZ**  
Wisconsin State Senator

September 14, 1998

Senator Timothy Weeden, Co-Chair  
Representative John Gard, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Finance

Dear Sen. Weeden & Rep. Gard,

I write regarding an item that will come before the Joint Finance Committee during the September 24<sup>th</sup>, 1998 s 13.10 hearing.

I intend supporting the Department of Veterans Affairs request for expenditure authority under the Health Care Aid Grants appropriation. I ask that you also consider a positive vote on this appropriation.

The Department is requesting an increase in expenditures in FY 99 of \$285,000 an amount needed to cover additional costs related to increasing the denture cap to 25% of the funding authorized for the program. The amount of this denture cap has not seen an increase since 1993. Based on the current cap, only about 5% of the available funding may be used to provide denture needs to our veterans who qualify for such services. Due to this cap, the denture needs of many of those veterans is not being met.

Please give serious consideration to supporting this request. We owe much to those who served our country to preserve our policies and freedoms. Appropriate health care is just a small token of that gratitude

It is my understanding that this appropriation will have no impact on the Veterans Trust Fund account.

Feel free to contact me if you wish to discuss this matter.

With kindest regards

Dale W. Schultz

Member: Joint Committee on Finance



**Daniel P. Vrakas**  
Wisconsin State Representative

Chair: Assembly Committee on Labor & Employment  
Vice-Chair Majority Caucus

September 14, 1998

To: Representative <sup>John</sup> John Gard, Co-Chair  
Senator Timothy <sup>Tim</sup> Weeden, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Finance

From: Representative Dan Vrakas, Chair  
Assembly Labor and Employment Committee

Re: Department of Veterans Affairs 13.10 Request

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I am writing to ask for your support of the request of the Department of Veterans Affairs approval of an increase in expenditure authority in FY 99 of \$285,000 SEG in Appropriation 20.485(2)(vg), Health Care Aid Grants. This request is needed to cover the additional costs related to increasing the denture cap to 25% of the funding authorized for the program.

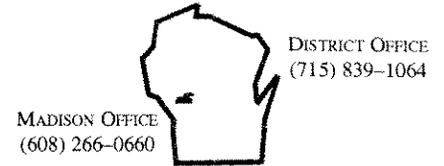
In FY 91, a substantial portion of funding available under the HCAG program was expended for dentures. To insure that funding would be available for other types of medical care, the amount available for dentures was capped at \$35,000 in FY 92 and \$50,000 beginning in FY 93. Since that time, the amount of the denture cap has not been increased.

To address the need for denture care, the Department will initiate an emergency administrative rule change that established a denture cap of 25% of the amount appropriated for the HCAG program. The Wisconsin Board of Veterans Affairs has approved both the rule change and promulgation as an emergency rule pending the approval of the additional expenditure authority.

This appropriation will ensure that the Department is able to cover the demand for dentures as well as meet the future demand. According to the Department, there is no negative impact on the Veterans Trust Fund as a result of this request.

I urge your support of the request of the Department of Veterans Affairs request for approval of an increase in expenditure authority.

**ROB KREIBICH**  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
NINETY THIRD ASSEMBLY DISTRICT



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CHAIR: ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

September 14, 1998

Senator Timothy Weeden, Co-Chair  
Representative John Gard, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Finance

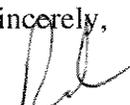
Dear Senator Weeden and Representative Gard:

Recently, Secretary Raymond Bolland of the Department of Veterans Affairs contacted you requesting for an increase in allowed spending for needy veterans. I am writing to you voicing my concern and hope that indeed an increase in the amount of money allowed for denture care for veterans can be increased from \$50,000 to \$300,000.

FY 93 increased the cap from \$35,000 to \$50,000. Since this time, the cap has remained at \$50,000 while the need for more money has increased. I fully support the increase in money from \$50,000 to \$300,00 for denture care for veterans who may need this type of dental care.

If you have any questions of me, please do not hesitate to contact my office about this particular matter. Having known a veteran in my district who received help from the state, I can attest to the fact that there are people who are indeed, in need of assistance for this type of procedure. Thanks for your time and consideration into this matter.

Sincerely,



ROB KREIBICH  
State Representative  
93<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District

RGK:acc

SEP 16 1998

Ranking Member:  
Labor  
Transportation  
Financial Institutions

**DAVE ZIEN**  
STATE SENATOR  
23rd Senate District

Member:  
Agriculture and  
Environmental Resources  
Legislative Council  
Council on Tourism

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Members, Joint Committee on Finance  
FROM: Senator Dave Zien, Chair, Senate Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs  
DATE: September 14, 1998  
RE: Department of Veterans Affairs Funding Request for Additional Space Costs

I am writing this memorandum to express my support for the Department of Veterans Affairs' funding request for additional SEG funds for the Health Care Aid Grant program.

The WDVA is proposing an emergency rule change that updates the cap on denture expenditures to an appropriate percentage of total HCAG funds, rather than an absolute dollar amount which was set several years ago. The additional SEG funds requested by WDVA are needed to allow the HCAG program to meet the current demand for dentures while maintaining adequate funding for Veterans' other medical needs within the current HCAG authorization. Because it will be base-building, future medical and denture assistance of our Veterans most in need will also be ensured.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

State Representative  
**Bonnie L. Ladwig**  
 63rd Assembly District

SEP 17 1998




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Assistant Majority Leader

**Corrected Copy**

September 15, 1998

Rep. John Gard, Co-Chair  
 Rep. Tom Ourada, Vice-Chair  
 Rep. Sheila Harsdorf  
 Rep. Sheryl Albers  
 Rep. Cloyd Porter  
 Rep. Dean Kaufert  
 Rep. Spencer Coggs  
 Rep. Greg Huber

✓ Sen. Tim Weeden, Co-Chair  
 Sen. Margaret Farrow  
 Sen. Robert Cowles  
 Sen. Mary Panzer  
 Sen. Dale Schultz  
 Sen. Peggy Rosenzweig  
 Sen. Brian Burke  
 Sen. Russ Decker

Dear Co-Chairs Gard and Weeden and Joint Finance Committee members:

I am writing to request your support of the Department of Veterans Affairs request for increase in expenditure authority under Health Care Aid Grants (HCAG).

Our veterans under HCAG are experiencing an increase in dental problems related to a variety of causes. In 1993, a dental cap was placed on the program and it hasn't been increased since that time. With the limited funding, dental care for veterans and their families under HCAG is not being met. The Department of Veterans Affairs intends to administer an emergency rule changing the denture cap to 25% of the amount appropriated for the HCAG program. The request for an increase in expenditure authority will work to offset the cap increase.

I would greatly appreciate your consideration of this request and your efforts to keep our veterans healthy and sustaining quality lives.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Ladwig  
 State Representative  
 63<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District

BLL:jls

cc: Raymond Boland, Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs



September 15, 1998

The Hon. Timothy Weeden  
Senate Chair  
Joint Committee on Finance  
1 East Main Street, Rm 203  
Madison, WI 53707-7882

The Hon. John Gard  
Assembly Chair  
Joint Committee on Finance  
315-N State Capitol  
Madison, WI 53707-8952

Dear Senator Weeden and Representative Gard:

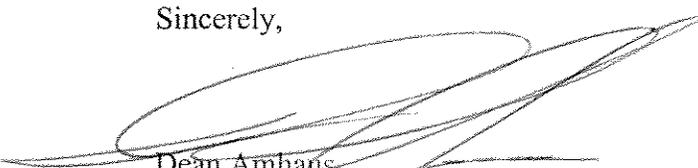
On September 8, 1998 the Sesquicentennial Commission submitted a request to the Joint Committee on Finance requesting release of \$120,600 to match gifts and grants donations as well as \$30,000 to match pledge amounts for a total request of \$150,600.

The Sesquicentennial Commission requests an additional match of \$1,000.00 donated by Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation. The donation was received on June 26, 1998 but not claimed as a match because it was first identified as being related to a specific project when it was actually meant to be a general contribution. This would bring the total requested by the Sesquicentennial Commission at the September 1998 meeting of the Joint Committee on Finance under s.13.10 to \$151,600 and would complete the match requirements set forth by the Joint Committee on Finance.

A copy of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation's \$1,000.00 check is attached.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Dean Amhaus  
Executive Director

Cc: Robert Lang  
Dan Caucutt

## WISCONSIN SESQUICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

8 South Carroll Street \* P.O. Box 1848 \* Madison, Wisconsin 53701-1848 \* Phone: (608) 264-7990 \* Fax: (608) 264-7994  
Co-chaired by Governor Tommy G. Thompson \* Governor Lee Sherman Dreyfus \* Governor Patrick J. Lucey



**WISCONSIN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION**

1212 Deming Way  
P.O. Box 5550  
Madison, WI 53705-0550

The sum of One Thousand Dollars And 0 Cents

Y  
THE  
ORDER OF  
WI Sesquicentennial Commission  
8 S Carroll St  
PO Box 1848  
Madison WI 53701-1848

059406

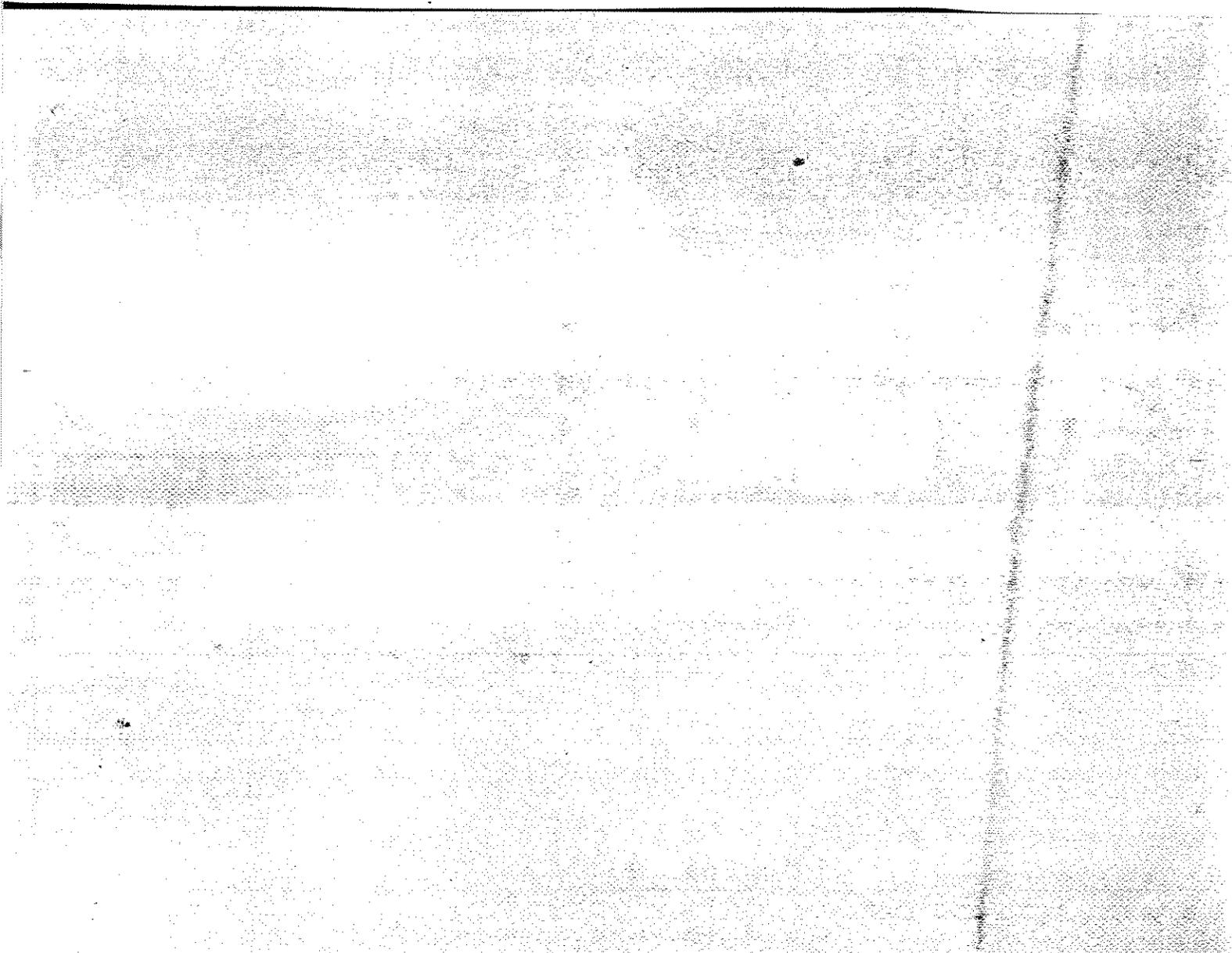
M & I Madison Bank  
Madison, Wisconsin 53703

0759-11205

DATE	AMOUNT
06/25/98	\$*****1,000.00



⑈059406⑈ ⑆075911205⑆ 0⑈848 2593⑈





**TOM SYKORA**  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

SEP 17 1998

September 16, 1998

Rep. John Gard, Co-Chair  
Rep. Tom Ourada, Vice-Chair  
Rep. Sheila Harsdorf  
Rep. Sheryl Albers  
Rep. Cloyd Porter  
Rep. Dean Kaufert  
Rep. Spencer Coggs  
Rep. Greg Huber

Sen. Tim Weeden, Co-Chair  
Sen. Margaret Farrow  
Sen. Robert Cowles  
Sen. Mary Panzer  
Sen. Dale Schultz  
Sen. Brian Burke  
Sen. Peggy Rosenzweig  
Sen. Russ Decker

Dear Co-Chairs Gard and Weeden and Joint Finance Committee members:

I am writing in regards to the request of the Department of Veterans Affairs for an increase in expenditure authority under Health Care Aid Grants (HCAG).

In 1993, a cap was placed on the amount of available spending for dentures to insure that funding would continue for other types of medical care. The amount of the denture cap has yet to be increased. With this limited amount of funding, the denture needs of many veterans and their families under HCAG are not being met. The Department of Veterans Affairs plans to initiate an emergency administrative rule change that would allow the denture cap to increase by 25% of the amount appropriated for the HCAG program.

In the interest of the health and well-being of veterans, I would greatly appreciate your consideration of this request.

Best Wishes,

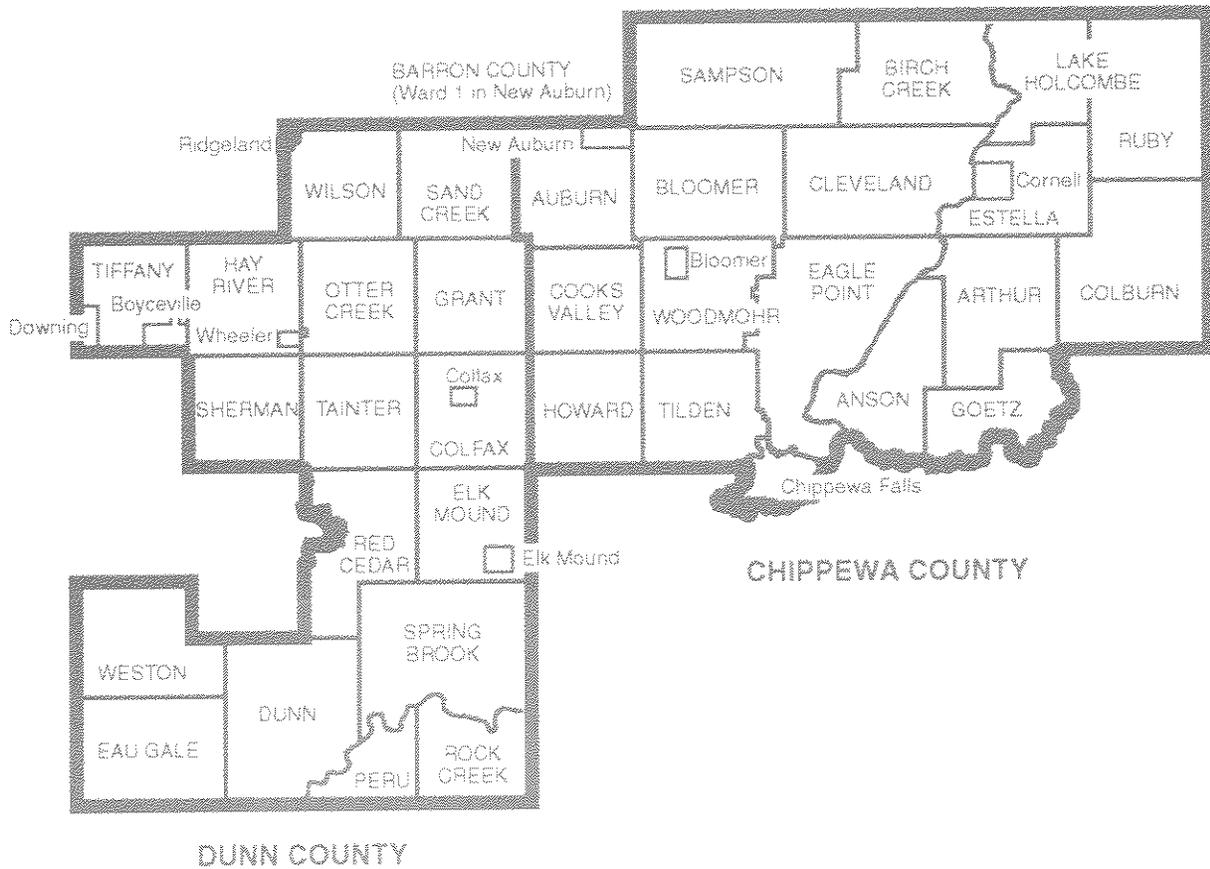
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tom".

TOM SYKORA  
State Representative

cc: Department of Veterans Affairs, Secretary Raymond Boland

TS/srj

# 67TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT





**State of Wisconsin • DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE**

125 SOUTH WEBSTER STREET • P.O. BOX 8933 • MADISON, WISCONSIN 53708-8933  
(608) 266-6466 • FAX (608) 266-5718 • <http://www.dor.state.wi.us>



*Tommy G. Thompson*  
Governor

*Cate Zeuske*  
Secretary of Revenue

September 16, 1998

The Honorable Timothy Weeden, Co-Chair  
The Honorable John Gard, Co-Chair  
Members, Joint Committee on Finance  
115 South Capitol  
Madison, WI 53702

Dear Senator Weeden and Representative Gard:

The department wishes to amend its s. 13.10 request dated September 1, 1998, by removing the \$35,900 for new tax law change printing from the request. The department will absorb the cost for FY99 and will submit a decision item in the department's 1999-01 biennial budget request to continue the funding into the next biennium. The amended request will now be for \$106,100 GPR in FY99 for the appropriation under s. 20.566(1)(a) of which \$22,900 is requested as base level resources to continue into future years.

Sincerely,

*Cate Zeuske*  
Cate S. Zeuske  
Secretary of Revenue

Attachment

DOR S. 13.10 Request - Tax Form/Instructions Expansion/SSN Confidentiality

09/16/98

COST ITEM	NO. OF UNITS	UNIT COST	ONE-TIME COST	ONGOING COST
SSN Confidentiality				
Contract programming	1,000 hrs.	65 /hr	\$65,000	
Development InfoTech			9,000	
PC / software			9,200	
Production Infotech				\$10,000
LTE Salaries	2,000 hrs.	6.023 /hr		12,000
Fringe Benefits @7.65%				900
Total			\$83,200	\$22,900
Total Request			\$106,100	



SEP 16 1998

WISCONSIN SENATE PRESIDENT  
SENATOR BRIAN D. RUDE

September 16, 1998

Senator Tim Weeden, Chair  
Joint Committee on Finance  
Room 203  
One East Main

Dear Tim:

At your next meeting of the Joint Finance Committee on the 13.10 agenda, you will be taking up a request from Steve Miller, the new Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau, which will allow him to reorganize this agency and create two new attorney positions, in order to better serve our needs in the Legislature. I am writing to you today to request your support for this proposal.

As you probably know, Steve Miller was selected as our new LRB Chief after a national search. He was unanimously recommended by a bipartisan committee of legislative leaders from both houses. We chose to select him precisely because we believed the LRB was in need of bold new leadership which could improve service on bill drafting.

Steve's request includes two components. First, he asks permission to create seven new positions while abolishing seven old positions, with no net increase in expenditure. This is part of his reorganization of the agency to provide middle managers who will supervise while at the same time acting in their old responsibilities. Specifically, Steve is moving to a team concept for bill drafting: he is also reorganizing administrative services, the library and reshaping a position to that of legal counsel. Second, he asks for two additional attorney positions to improve overall response time.

Speaker Jensen and I have carefully reviewed his plans. We believe adoption of this request is necessary to allow our LRB to function smoothly, to cut down on excessive overtime and workload imbalances and to meet our responsibilities for preparing for next session.

Adoption of this proposal will also have a positive effect on employee morale and show that legislative leaders and the Joint Finance Committee share an interest in improving this agency.

I strongly encourage you to visit with Steve if you haven't already to talk about his plans. If you have any questions, I would be happy to try to answer them. And, if you cannot support this proposal, I would appreciate a "heads up" so we can visit about your concerns.

For years I have heard complaints about the time it takes to draft bills. We are trying to fix those complaints and I need your help.

Thank you!

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Rude", written in a cursive style.

BRIAN RUDE  
Senate President

BR/mil

cc: Steve Miller



SEP 18 1998

**Mary Hubler**

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**State Representative**

September 18, 1998

Senator Tim Weeden, Co-Chair  
Representative John Gard, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Finance  
P.O. Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Senator Weeden, Representative Gard, & Committee Members:

I am writing in support of the Department of Veterans Affairs' (DVA) proposal to implement an emergency rule change increasing the cap on denture expenditures to 25% of the amount of expenditure authority appropriated to the Health Care Aide Grant (HCAG) program.

As you know, the HCAG program provides grants to assist in medical treatment and hospitalization payments to impoverished veterans and their families. As established in 1993, current statutory requirements allow the program to expend no more than \$50,000 for dentures. The maximum amount for a grant is \$5,000 per individual. Current demand for dentures now approaches \$300,000 annually. It is imperative the Committee approve the DVA request to meet this demand and increase the availability of dentures to our state veterans.

This proposal is supported by the County Veterans Service Officers and the veteran community. I ask that you approve the Department's expenditure authority request when you meet on September 24 for your 13.10 meeting.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter with me personally, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me.

Sincerely,

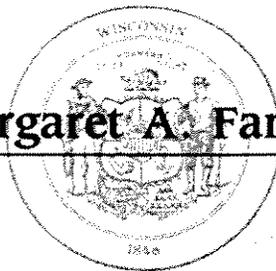
Mary Hubler  
State Representative  
75th Assembly District

Office: State Capitol, P.O. Box 8952, Madison, WI 53708 • (608) 266-2519  
Home: P.O. Box 544, Rice Lake, WI 54868 • (715) 234-7421  
Toll-free Legislative Hotline • 1-800-362-9472

SEP 18 1998

33rd District

**Margaret A. Farrow**



Sen. Tim Weeden  
1 E. Main, Rm. 203

DE

September 18, 1998

To: Senator Timothy Weeden, Co-Chair  
Representative John Gard, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Finance

From: Senator Margaret Farrow

Re: Department of Veterans Affairs 13.10 Request

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The Department of Veterans Affairs has requested approval of 13.10 expenditure authority within the Health Care Aid Grants appropriation. I fully support this request and I encourage all JFC members to approve the funding as well.

I know you have received several letters on this request, so I won't reiterate the details here. I will say, however, that the veterans population is aging which logically increases health care costs. We mustn't overlook the fact that good dental care is also a necessary part of good health care.

The Department's request for additional funds is reasonable and responsible. Please join me in voting in support at the September 24 meeting.



P. O. Box 7970  
Madison, Wisconsin 53707  
(608) 266-1018

Tommy G. Thompson, Governor  
William J. McCoshen, Secretary

September 18, 1998

SEP 21 1998

The Honorable John Gard  
Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Finance  
State Capitol, Room 315 North  
Madison, WI 53702

The Honorable Timothy Weeden  
Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Finance  
One East Main Street, Room 203 East  
Madison, WI 53702

SUBJECT: Withdrawal of Section 13.10 Request for 1.0 FTE Project Position Authorization  
and Funding to Administer Wisconsin Challenge Grant Program

Dear Co-Chairs:

The Department of Commerce is hereby withdrawing its Section 13.10, Stats., request for the authorization to create a 1.0 FTE project position, as well as the request for funds to support the position, to administer the Wisconsin Challenge Grant Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Philip Edw. Albert'.

Philip Edw. Albert  
Acting Secretary

Cc: Secretary Mark D. Bugher, Department of Administration  
Richard G. Chandler, Director, State Budget Office



## Legislative Fiscal Bureau

One East Main, Suite 301 • Madison, WI 53703 • (608) 266-3847 • Fax: (608) 267-6873

September 18, 1998

TO: Members  
Joint Committee on Finance

FROM: Bob Lang, Director

SUBJECT: Materials for the Committee's September 24, Section 13.10 Meeting

Attached are papers, prepared by this office, on those items which are scheduled for the Committee's September 24 meeting under s. 13.10.

The meeting is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. on the first floor of 119 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

BL/sas  
Attachments