

1999 ASSEMBLY BILL 490

September 28, 1999 - Introduced by JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

1 AN ACT *to create* 23.10 (1m) of the statutes; **relating to:** the designation and
2 duties of chief warden, deputy chief warden, internal affairs officer and
3 complaint officer within the department of natural resources.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

The bill is explained in the PREFATORY NOTE provided by the joint legislative council in the bill.

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

PREFATORY NOTE: This bill, prepared for the joint legislative council's special committee on conservation laws enforcement, establishes a direct line authority for the chief conservation warden over regional conservation wardens, conservation warden supervisors and conservation wardens.

Currently, s. 23.10, stats., provides that the department of natural resources (DNR) shall secure the enforcement of laws that it is required to administer and specifies that the persons who are to enforce those laws are known as conservation wardens. There are no statutory provisions relating to supervision of conservation wardens.

Under this bill, DNR is required to designate a conservation warden as the chief warden and is permitted to designate one or more deputy chief wardens.

The chief warden is required to direct, supervise and control conservation wardens in the performance of their statutorily required duties. Further, the chief warden is required to designate a person as an internal affairs officer to investigate complaints against conservation wardens when an investigation is determined by the chief warden

