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# ROGER BRESKE

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## MEMORANDUM

February 15, 2000

TO: Senate Committee on Insurance, Tourism  
Transportation & Corrections  
FR: Senator Roger Breske, Chair  
RE: Proposed Administrative Rule 99-124

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Below, please find a description of administrative rule 99-124 which was recently referred to the Senate Committee on Insurance, Tourism, Transportation & Corrections. For your reference, I have included a brief summary, prepared by the Kickapoo Reserve Management Board, of the rule. If you would like a copy of this rule, or if you would like to request a hearing, please contact Vaughn in my office before *Friday, February 25, 2000*.

**CLEARINGHOUSE RULE 99-124;** *Relating to the use of land, water and facilities in the Kickapoo Valley Reserve.* The Kickapoo Reserve Management Board was created in 1994 to manage the Kickapoo Valley Reserve, which encompasses approximately 7,400 acres along 14 miles of the Kickapoo River in Vernon County. The 11 member board, which is appointed by the Governor, is required by statute to manage the land for low impact recreation. It currently does so under a management lease agreement with the U.S. Corps of Engineers, which purchased the land in the early 1970's as part of a large flood control and dam-building effort that was discontinued in 1975 because of environmental and cost concerns.

In 1996 federal legislation deauthorized the dam project and provided for ownership of approximately 7,400 acres to be transferred to the state when federal requirements are met. An additional 1,200 acres of tribally significant land is to be held in trust for the Ho-Chunk Nation by the Federal Bureau of Indian Affairs. The federal legislation that provides for the transfer of ownership does not specify a date by which title must be transferred but, it is anticipated that transfer of title to the 7,400 acres to the State will be completed in April of 2000.

The proposed rules contain the detail related to the Board management of the property, public use of the property and fees for public use of the property. The rules are very similar to Department of Natural Resources rules related to the use and management of state parks. (See Chapter NR 45.) In addition to general rules related to the management and use of the Reserve, the proposed rule regulates vehicle operation, animals, fires, use of firearms and hunting and camping on the Reserve. The proposed rule also provides for the charging of fees for camping and other recreational uses of the Reserve.