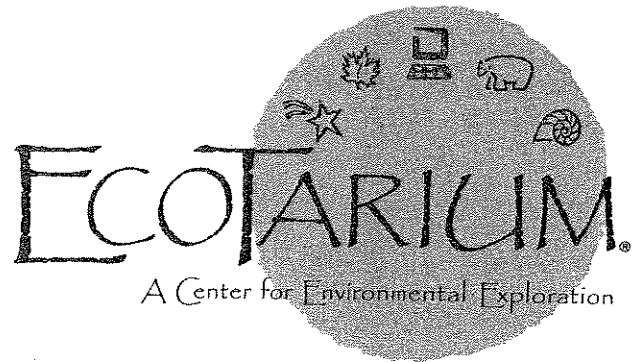


July 15, 2002



Scott Becker
16 West
Wisconsin State Capital
Madison, WI. 53708

Dear Scott,

It was a pleasure speaking to you today. To reiterate my comments in our conversation, the Ma. HEFA experience for the EcoTarium has been a unique and very beneficial experience.

This has been so in two ways; first, the process was facilitated for us. Although of course we had to meet all the regulatory requirements, we were lead through the process by the Authority in a very efficient and timely manner. This was particularly important for us being a relatively small, non-complex administration with an annual budget of approximately \$5 million. The necessary professionals and documentation were literally delivered to our doorstep. The second important aspect is the relatively inexpensive financing costs and interest. Because of the economies of the program, these elements were far more favorable than what we would have experienced in a more traditional financing arrangement. There are also other accommodations such as no pre-payment penalties that may not be available elsewhere.

At least for our institution of our size, these aspects of the program were very important. I also understand that Ma. HEFA has a portfolio of programs that range from the "mega" arrangements down to capital expenditures of under \$20,000. The point is that financing opportunities are being made to institutions like ours that otherwise may not have the powerful financial position and or sophistication to realize such benefits through other commercial institutions. We recently were able to complete some \$12 million in greatly needed renovations and expansion with the benefits of the Ma. HEFA program.

Good luck; and I hope the sharing of our experience has been useful in your considerations.

Sincerely,

Thomas N. DiConza, CPA
Director of Finance and Operations

Testimony of
State Representative Steve Wieckert
Before the
**Senate Committee on Homeland Security, Veterans and Military Affairs and
Government Reform**
Regarding
AB176-Federal Tax Exemptions for Cultural Facilities

January 14, 2004

Chairman Brown and members of the Committee:

Thank you for holding this hearing on Assembly Bill 176, regarding activating a federal tax exemption for cultural facilities.

In a way, this is a rather amazing piece of legislation because it allows Wisconsin to receive a federal tax exemption at a cost of no revenue loss to the state government.

Previously enacted federal legislation allows states to receive this federal tax exemption if they specifically vote in favor of activating this federal exemption through a special state authority.

We will not be the first state to take advantage of this opportunity. Other states including Illinois, Colorado, Massachusetts, and Oregon, to name a few, have already enacted this federal tax exemption.

This federal exemption would be targeted to the construction of non-profit cultural facilities such as museums, performing arts centers, art institutes, ecological museums, and other related facilities. In Illinois, for example, this exemption was used to help construct the Adler Planetarium, Chicago Children's Museum, Field Museum of Natural History, Lincoln Park Zoological Society, Ravina Festival Association, Shedd Aquarium Society, and Museum of Science and Industry.

This federal tax exemption would apply to construction bonding. This means that when a facility offers capital project bonding, the purchaser of the bonds would not be required to pay federal income taxes on the interest which the bonds generate.

This is important because it would allow these facilities to offer bonds at a lower interest rate while still allowing the bond purchaser to receive a reasonable return on their investment of the purchase of these bonds. This could save the arts center or museum millions of dollars over the life of the bonds.

This exemption would benefit Wisconsin in numerous ways. It could incrementally encourage the construction of larger facilities or allow a project to begin, which may otherwise have not been initiated. This would benefit the local community and the state through cultural enrichment—an important quality of life factor. It would also benefit the construction industry and trades, helping to employ more people. This bill would also help stimulate economic growth

through these construction projects. Tourism could also be enhanced as visitors to these communities would have an additional place to visit.

It is also important to note what this bill does not do. It does not provide a state tax exemption, and therefore there is no revenue lost to our state treasury. Also, the state or the reviewing agency has absolutely no obligation for these bonds, whether they are successful or not, so the state has no additional liability.

The Wisconsin Health and Educational Facilities Authority is the administering agency, which would be used to review these bonds and qualify Wisconsin for these federal tax exemptions. WHEFA is an existing state agency, created in 1979, which already reviews construction bonding for federal tax exemption status for many universities and hospitals and has an outstanding reputation.

This legislation has the support of:

- The Wisconsin Department of Tourism
- The Wisconsin Humanities Council
- The Sheboygan Community Theatre Foundation
- The American Institute of Architects of Wisconsin
- The Madison Cultural Arts District
- The Fox Cities Performing Arts Center.

In a time of tight budgets, we can still move Wisconsin forward and advance the interest of the arts and humanities without additional cost to state government, and that's what this bill does, as well as helping to stimulate economic growth and provide for additional Wisconsin jobs.

Thank you for listening to my testimony. I would be happy to answer any questions.

Testimony in support of AB176

Kelly DeHaven, Program Director, Wisconsin Assembly for Local Arts

1-14-2004

Thanks for the opportunity to speak to you today. I am Program Director of the Wisconsin Assembly for Local Arts, the state's arts service and advocacy organization. We serve the thousands of artists and arts organizations in Wisconsin that bring the arts to their communities. ^{I'd like to} Please let me make some comments about the state of the arts in Wisconsin right now, and why it's important to have legislation such as this to help grow Wisconsin's communities through the arts.

First **1) The Arts Are Fundamental to a Robust Economy:** In his new book, *The Rise of the Creative Class*, Dr. Richard Florida of Carnegie-Mellon University writes that creativity and innovation ^{will} be the fundamental skills needed for success and growth as our country moves towards a "creative economy," and that the presence of arts and cultural opportunities make a community more attractive to an educated and creative workforce. Dr. Florida says, "in the new economy, the quality of a region's lifestyle has as much to do with its success as its business cost structure, taxes or physical location. Places that succeed in attracting and retaining creative people prosper; those that fail don't. "

Similarly, Tom Still, President of the Wisconsin Technology Council, says, "^{WE} We now stand at...an economic crossroads in the history of the state. To build a 21st century economy anchored by technological innovation, Wisconsin must make the most of its people, resources and opportunities, and it must meet the challenges posed by the rise of the 'knowledge economy.'"

The arts have a growing and positive impact on Wisconsin's economy: Ten Wisconsin communities, and the entire state of Wisconsin, were included in, "Arts & Economic Prosperity: The Economic Impact of Nonprofit Arts Organizations and Their Audiences", a landmark survey released in summer 2002 by Americans for the Arts, of the economic impact of the arts across America.

Wisconsin's survey showed that **the state's nonprofit arts industry generates \$289.8 million in economic activity every year, including \$38 million in local and state tax revenues.** The \$289.8 million total includes \$190.5 million in spending by arts

organizations and \$99.3 million in event-related spending by arts audiences (excluding ticket revenue).

In addition, Wisconsin's nonprofit arts industry supports nearly 9,500 full-time equivalent jobs.

The previous economic impact survey of the arts in Wisconsin, released in April 1996, recognized the state's nonprofit arts organizations' \$112.9 million in expenditures which supported over 5,506 full-time jobs in the state.

Secondly

2) There's an arts building boom in Wisconsin: Nearly 100 Wisconsin communities have recently or are currently in the midst of exciting arts facility projects, which represent over \$500 million in private investment and demonstrate state citizens' support for the arts in small cities, towns, and rural areas. (Communities currently building their cultural infrastructure include Ashland, Beloit, Chippewa Falls, Cumberland, Fond du Lac, Hartford, Stevens Point, Stoughton, Viroqua, Waukesha, Wausau, and Wisconsin Rapids, to name just a few. In addition, high profile, private sector capital projects such as the Overture Foundation's \$100 million gift to create the Overture Center in downtown Madison and the Milwaukee Art Museum's \$50 million building addition/by world-renowned architect Santiago Calatrava, are drawing attention. At least half of these facilities are attached to schools, most in the state's rural areas, making them educational and social centers used by the entire community. I have the current list attached to this copy of my testimony - it's pretty impressive! *In closing,*

Thank you for your support of AB176. It will make a positive difference in Wisconsin's communities large and small.

**Testimony before the Senate Committee on Homeland Security, Veterans and
Military Affairs and Government Reform Regarding Assembly Bill 176
Financing Projects Related to Cultural Facilities**

January 14, 2004

Good Morning. I am here today to speak in favor of Assembly Bill 176 and to offer some basic insights into the impact this bill would have in our state. My comments will also apply to all financing activity undertaken by WHEFA. Most importantly, I am here to answer any questions or concerns that you may have about this bill.

WHEFA has been providing active capital financing assistance to Wisconsin tax-exempt healthcare institutions since 1979. Our statute was subsequently expanded in 1987 to include the issuance of bonds for the benefit of independent colleges and universities. In December 2003, Act 109 was signed which now permits our state's private K-12 schools to utilize WHEFA services.

The Authority staff assists eligible healthcare and educational institutions in analyzing financing alternatives and in structuring revenue bond issues to meet their capital needs. Bonds are sold to institutional and individual investors in the private capital markets. No public funds are employed.

The credit supporting any Authority bond issue is the credit of the borrowing institution. There is no guarantee or moral obligation extended by either WHEFA or the State of Wisconsin.

Interest paid on WHEFA bonds is exempt from federal income taxation, which results in borrowing costs that are 60 to 70 percent of conventional financing alternatives. Interest paid on WHEFA bonds is not exempt from present Wisconsin income taxation.

WHEFA receives no state funding for either its operations or lending programs. WHEFA expenses are paid for by a nominal fee assessed on borrowers utilizing our programs and services.

The current bond issuance by WHEFA does not, and any additional issuance created by AB 176 will not, affect the bonding authority, caps or limits of any other state issuer.

Several of our nation's states including Illinois, Colorado, Massachusetts and Oregon now authorize a state level issuer like WHEFA to assist cultural facilities in meeting their capital project bonding needs. Projects financed in other states have included museums, aquariums, zoo's, theaters, public radio and historical societies.

Annually, WHEFA completes between 20 and 30 financings. Approval of AB 176 could add two or three financings per annum.

If approved, the WHEFA staff would look forward to helping meet the capital needs of Wisconsin's cultural facilities.

I would be happy to answer any questions which you may have.

AIA Wisconsin

A Society of The American Institute of Architects

January 17, 2003



State Representative Steve Wieckert
Wisconsin Assembly
P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708-8953

RE: TAX-EXEMPT BONDING FOR CULTURAL FACILITIES

Dear Rep. Wieckert:

It is our understanding that you plan to introduce proposed legislation, LRB 0849, that would authorize tax-exempt bonds for cultural institutions.

AIA Wisconsin, the state society of The American Institute of Architects, supports the proposed legislation. It would help reduce the cost of construction for facilities that enhance the quality of life in our communities.

Please let me know what AIA Wisconsin members can do to help support this proposed legislation.

Cordially,

AIA Wisconsin

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William M. Babcock".

William M. Babcock, Hon. AIA
Executive Director

WMB/mo



Madison Cultural Arts District

211 State Street
Madison, WI 53703-2214

Executive Director
Robert B. D'Angelo

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James K. Ruhly

Michael Skindrud

Sue Ann Thompson

Michael Verveer

January 17, 2003

To: Rep. Steve Wiecek

VIA FAX: 282-3657

I am writing to offer my support for LRB 0849.

I find this to be thoughtful legislation, which if enacted could be of great value in assisting the further development of cultural facilities throughout the State of Wisconsin by providing access to tax exempt capital markets not previously available to cultural institutions that are not a part of a governmental unit.

I am sure that arts organizations across the state and their many thousands of patrons will appreciate the future impact of this legislation.

Very Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. D'Angelo", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert D'Angelo
President & CEO
Overture Center for the Arts

Phone
608-266-6550

Fax
608-266-4864

Wisconsin Health and Educational Facilities Authority
18000 West Sarah Lane, Suite 140
Brookfield, Wisconsin 53045-5841
Phone (262) 792-0466 Fax (262) 792-0649

LAWRENCE R. NINES
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

January 21, 2003

Representative Steve Wieckert
P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708

Re: Bills to expand WHEFA eligibility to include K-12 Private Schools and Cultural Facilities

Dear Representative Wieckert,

I am writing to express support for your renewed interest in expanding WHEFA bonding authority to include K-12 private schools (LRB#0848) and cultural facilities (LRB #0849). Both were considered last session and make good policy as a way to strengthen these two important segments of our state's economy.

As you know, federal tax laws allow tax-exempt, 501 (c)3 K-12 schools and cultural facilities to borrow for their capital projects on a federally tax-exempt basis. Your bills would create the state eligibility to make this easily available in Wisconsin. There would be no state tax exemption, only a federal exemption, so no fiscal impact on state tax revenues.

Some other states, which have similar authorization, include Missouri, Oregon, Connecticut, Colorado, Illinois, Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

Bonds issued by WHEFA are not a liability of, or guaranteed by, the State of Wisconsin. WHEFA receives no state funding and would not require additional staffing to serve these additional borrowers.

We look forward to helping meet the capital needs of Wisconsin's K-12 private schools and cultural facilities.

Sincerely,



Larry Nines
Executive Director

STEFANIE H. WEILL

CENTER for the PERFORMING ARTS

January 26, 2003

Representative Steve Wieckert
16W, State Capitol
P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708-8953

Dear Representative Wieckert:

The Sheboygan Community Theatre Foundation, Inc. supports LRB 0849 which would authorize the Wisconsin Health and Educational Facilities Authority (WHEFA) to issue bonds to finance projects related to cultural facilities. The Sheboygan Community Theatre Foundation is a non-profit corporation chartered in the State of Wisconsin and has received a 501 (c) (3) designation from the Internal Revenue Service.

The Sheboygan Community Theatre Foundation acquired the historic Sheboygan Theater in 1996 and has invested \$10.6 million to renovate and expand the theater into the Stefanie H. Weill Center for the Performing Arts. The facility opened on October 13, 2001 and has had a major impact on downtown Sheboygan. The Weill Center is home to the Sheboygan Symphony Orchestra, the Community Concerts, Men of Harmony and the Rotary Club Concert Series. Since the facility opened almost 60,000 patrons have attended events at the Center. The Weill Center has become a favorite facility to raise funds for numerous non-profit entities in the Sheboygan. Just last week the Sheboygan Area Chamber of Commerce held a fund raiser at the Center and made about \$8,000 for their scholarship program.

The downtown merchants are very supportive of the facility because of the increased traffic in the downtown on show days. Many of the restaurants have extended hours on performance nights because studies have shown that about 50% of the patrons of cultural facilities, like the Weill Center, have dinner out either before or after a performance.

The Sheboygan Community Theatre Foundation (SCTF) has plans to add a rehearsal hall and grand lobby to the Weill Center after our current debt of \$2 million is retired. The rehearsal hall will cost about \$1 million and the grand lobby about \$2 million and the SCTF might well take advantage of the proposed bonding program by WHEFA.

Prior to the development of the Weill Center the local groups that now call the Weill Center home performed in various schools. By moving to the Weill Center they have been able to substantially increase their attendance. For example, the Sheboygan Symphony Orchestra sold 630 when they performed in the Kohler High School. This past season they sold 950 season tickets. The Men of Harmony, sponsors of the Wisconsin Gospel Music series, used to perform before 1,000 patrons at Urban Middle School; they now have added a matinee and perform before 1,850 patrons. Further, 42% of the Men of Harmony's season ticket holders come from outside of Sheboygan County. Recent concerts by Brenda Lee and the BoDeans attracted patrons from the Chicago area that stayed overnight in Sheboygan motels.

In conclusion, the restoration of the historic Sheboygan Theater not only preserved a unique structure that is now on the National Register of Historic Places but has contributed to the economic revitalization of downtown Sheboygan.

If you have any questions or need additional information please call me at (920) 452-1704. Thank you for the opportunity to support LRB 0849.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert R. Peterson".

Robert R. Peterson
President

cc: Mayor James R. Schramm
Dee Olsen, Sheboygan County Chamber of Commerce



January 28, 2003

Representative Steve Wieckert
Room 16 West, State Capitol
P O Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708-8953

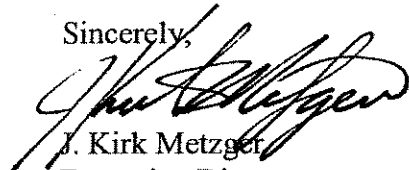
Dear Representative Wieckert,

As someone who has spent over twenty years in the administration of public and nonprofit arts organizations, I heartily endorse your proposed legislation LRB 0849.

The arts enhance not only the quality of life in Wisconsin but also generate a significant portion of the Wisconsin's gross state product and the tax revenue associated with it. In the year 2000, nonprofit arts organizations were responsible for supporting over 9,000 jobs in Wisconsin and generated \$38 million in Wisconsin state and local government revenue.

A measure such as this that increases the ability of nonprofit arts organizations to grow and flourish is needed.

Sincerely,



J. Kirk Metzger
Executive Director



WISCONSIN
HUMANITIES
COUNCIL

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G. Lane Ware
Ruder, Ware & Michler, S.C.
Wausau

Margarita Zamora
UW-Madison

Executive Director:
Max Harris

*Governor's Appointee

31 January 2003

The Honorable Steve Wieckert
P. O. Box 8953
Madison
WI 53708-8953

Dear Steve,

I'm writing to express my strong support for LRB-0849/1 and to thank you for introducing it. It makes excellent sense to give institutions that bring the arts and humanities to public audiences throughout the state the same opportunity to obtain tax-exempt bonding that is currently offered to health and educational facilities. The health of the mind, fostered by the arts and humanities, is no less important than the health of the body. Moreover, the enjoyment of the arts and humanities should be as available to members of the working public as it is to those enrolled in formal education.

The mission of the Wisconsin Humanities Council is "to create opportunities for all the people of Wisconsin to engage in critical exploration of the histories, arts, ideas, and values of their own and other communities. It does so in the belief that such exploration is essential both to self-knowledge and to a healthy human community." Although we have no plans to build in the foreseeable future and will not, therefore, benefit directly from your bill, we are delighted to support your efforts to advance the broad availability and affordability of the arts and humanities in this way.

Best wishes,


Max Harris
Executive Director



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM

Jim Doyle, Governor

Kevin Shibilski, Secretary

February 11, 2003

The Honorable Steve Wieckert
Representative, 57th District
Wisconsin State Assembly
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708-8952

Dear Representative Wieckert,

I fully support the Cultural Facilities Bill (LRB 0849) you have introduced that would allow cultural centers, museums and other arts organizations to receive Federal tax-exemption on bonding for capital projects.

The Department of Tourism has and will continue to support the advancement of arts and cultural organizations in Wisconsin because of the significant positive impact they have on the state's economy. These organizations are part of an industry that generated nearly \$11.4 billion in traveler expenditures in 2001 while contributing more than \$1.8 billion in tax revenue to state and local governments.

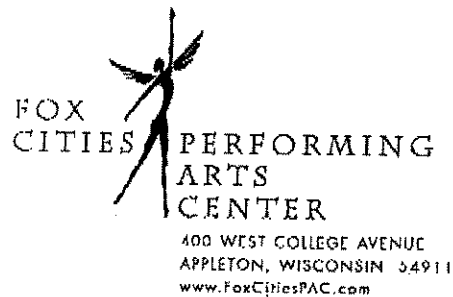
However, tourism is not the only industry in the state that would see the benefits of the development that this bill would facilitate. I feel it is a responsible and forward-thinking proposal that will improve the overall quality of life for Wisconsin's residents and visitors alike.

Sincerely,

Kevin Shibilski
Secretary

KS/jk





April 22, 2003

Chairman Frank Lasee
Assembly Government Operation and Spending Limitations
105 West, State Capitol
P O Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708-8953

Dear Chairman Lasee,

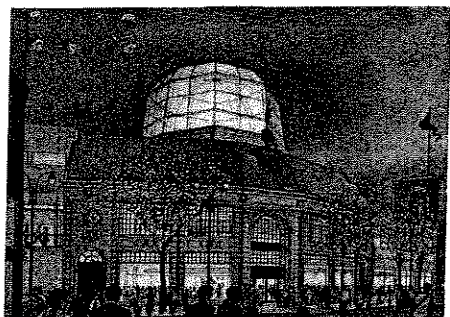
The directors and management of the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center heartily endorse Representative Wickert's proposed legislation Assembly Bill 176 supporting the Arts.

The arts are a key component of the quality of life in Wisconsin. They also generate a significant portion of Wisconsin's gross state product and tax revenue associated with the many levels that support and surround them.

Wisconsin should be known as the state that creates an environment for arts organizations to grow and flourish!

Sincerely,

Walter S. Rugland
Interim Executive Director
& Secretary/Treasurer



Architectural Illustrator, F. M. Costantino, ASAI

OVERTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

US Bank Plaza 1 S. Pinckney Street Suite 816 Madison, WI 53703-2869

608-294-9000 • fax 608-294-9076

e-mail: gaustin@overturefoundation.com

www.overturefoundation.com

George E. Austin

President

June 3, 2003

State Representative Steve Wieckert
Room 16 West
State Capitol
P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708-8953

Dear Representative Wieckert:

Thank you for sharing 2003 Assembly Bill 176, to authorize the Wisconsin Health and Educational Facilities Authority to issue bonds to finance projects undertaken by cultural institutions. I am President of the Overture Development Corporation, the entity undertaking the construction of the new Overture Center for the Arts in downtown Madison. I write in support of the bill and your initiative to provide Wisconsin's cultural institutions access to capital for needed facility improvement, renovation and expansion projects.

Cultural development, usually in partnership with other strategies, has proven to be an effective mechanism for the restoration of many downtowns in areas having unused, abandoned or decaying buildings and spaces that diminish the vitality and economic development of our cities. By committing ourselves to the role the arts play in the downtowns of our cities, our villages, throughout our rural areas and in the lives of our citizens, Wisconsin's communities will be more livable and more prosperous.

Cultural facilities – concerts halls, theaters, libraries, museums and galleries – historically have been considered urban phenomena. Here in Wisconsin, we know that cultural facilities also play a key role in our smaller towns and cities. We also know that smaller towns and cities with modest populations also face downtown dilemmas. Until recently, those areas were limited to more traditional economic development strategies when considering ways to stabilize, let alone revitalize, their downtown business districts. The arts, outdoor recreation, and cultural tourism have begun to offer small towns and cities a life preserver in the form of newly defined economic development opportunities. Many small towns and cities have capitalized on the increased demand for arts-oriented facilities and services by restoring historic buildings for reuse as arts centers.

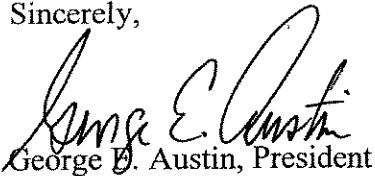
Even with the considerable attention being paid to arts facilities as a revitalization engine for our downtowns and main streets, to make these investments successful over the long run will

require action and support by the local governments, state government and the federal government. Your bill provides an important element...access to capital for needed improvements, additions and renovations for the myriad of non-profit cultural institutions across the State.

Let me suggest four underlying reasons for government support. First, it's important to remember that the arts help to define what it is to be an American by building a sense of the nation's identity. That is especially true in Wisconsin, as we understand the importance of citizenship. The arts also contribute to the quality of life and economic growth by making our communities more livable and more prosperous. Third, the arts help form an educated and aware citizenry by promoting understanding in this diverse society, by developing competencies in school and at work and by advancing freedom of inquiry. And finally and maybe most importantly, the arts enhance our individual lives by encouraging individual creativity, spirit, and potential.

The Legislature can help Wisconsin lead the nation again by investing valuable resources in support of the arts. By committing ourselves to the role the arts play in the downtowns of our cities, our villages, our rural areas, as your bill will do, Wisconsin's communities will be more livable and more prosperous.

Sincerely,



George D. Austin, President

OVERTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Wisconsin Health and Educational Facilities Authority
18000 West Sarah Lane, Suite 140
Brookfield, Wisconsin 53045-5841
Phone (262) 792-0466 Fax (262) 792-0649

LAWRENCE R. NINES
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

November 21, 2003

Ron Brown
Wisconsin State Senate
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

NOV 24 2003

Re: AB176 – WHEFA Financing for Cultural Facilities

Dear Senator Brown,

I am writing to encourage you to bring AB176 before the Senate Committee on Homeland Security, Veterans and Military Affairs and Government Reform, which you chair.

This bill, which has received bi-partisan support, would allow the Wisconsin Health and Educational Facilities Authority (WHEFA) to finance projects undertaken by our state's non-profit cultural facilities. If approved and signed into law, WHEFA would make this living legislation by assisting eligible cultural facilities in financing their capital projects.

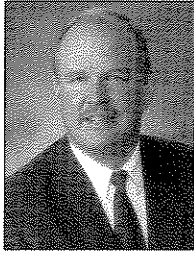
There is no fiscal impact on the state, since there is no state tax exemption on bonds issued by WHEFA and no state guaranty is provided in these financings.

If I can provide additional information on this bill or WHEFA activities, please let me know.

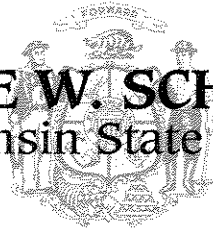
Sincerely,



Larry Nines
Executive Director



DALE W. SCHULTZ
Wisconsin State Senator



December 11, 2003

Senator Ron Brown
Chair, Senate Committee on Homeland Security,
Veterans and Military Affairs, and Government Reform
104 South, State Capitol
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Senator Brown,

I am writing to you to request that you schedule Assembly Bill 176 for a hearing in January. AB 176, which has received bi-partisan support, would allow the Wisconsin Health and Educational Facilities Authority (WHEFA) to finance capital projects undertaken by Wisconsin's non-profit cultural facilities.

WHEFA has been providing capital financing assistance to health care institutions since 1979, and independent colleges and universities since 1987. WHEFA receives no state funding for either its operations or lending programs. Expenses are paid for by a nominal fee assessment on borrowers.

Several other states including Illinois, Colorado, Massachusetts and Oregon now authorize a state level issuer like WHEFA to assist cultural facilities in meeting their capitol project bonding needs. It is estimated that approval of AB 176 could add two or three financings per year.

I believe that WHEFA has been an extremely successful program and that this piece of legislation will enable them to continue to help meet the needs of these important sectors of our state's economy. Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

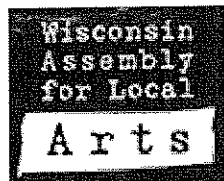
With kindest regards,

Dale W. Schultz
17th Senate District

WISCONSIN ASSEMBLY FOR LOCAL ARTS

Advocacy

Cultural Arts Facilities in Wisconsin



Search this site:

Search input field and button

Advocacy | Advocacy Resources

Over 100 Wisconsin communities have recently or are currently in the midst of exciting arts facility projects, which demonstrate state citizens' support for the arts in cities, towns, and rural areas. Here's the list (current as of October 2003):

Recently-completed and in-progress community projects
New cultural facilities connected to schools

- Bay Port High School, Green Bay
Black River Falls High School
Boscobel High School
Cedarburg Performing Arts Center, Cedarburg High School
Cedar Grove High School
DeForest High School
Door Community Auditorium, Gibraltar Schools, Fish Creek
Edgerton Perf. Arts Center, Edgerton High School, Edgerton
Evansville High School
Fond du Lac High School
Fort Atkinson High School
Hamilton High School
Hortonville High School
Hudson High School
Kettle Moraine High School, Hartland
Lodi High School
Mauston High School
Lincoln High School, Manitowoc
Roncalli High School, Manitowoc
Merrill High School
Middleton-Cross Plains High School
E.F. Schwan Performing Arts Center, Monona Grove High School, Monona
E.J. Creske Community Center, Mosinee High School, Mosinee
Muskego High School Performing Arts Center
New London High School
Neillsville High School
Falls Area Performing Arts Center, Oconto Falls High School
Osseo High School
Oregon High School
Pittsville Performing Arts Center, Pittsville Area Schools, Pittsville
Portage High School

- Mabel Tainter Memorial Theatre, Menomonie (renovation)
- Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, Milwaukee (renovation)
- Milwaukee Art Museum (expansion)
- Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design (new facility)
- Wisconsin Conservatory of Music, Milwaukee (renovation)
- United Community Center/Latino Arts, Milwaukee (renovation/addition)
- Mineral Point Opera House (renovation)
- Monroe Arts Center (renovation)
- New Glarus Town Hall (renovation)
- Racine Art Museum (new facility, expansion)
- John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan (expansion)
- Stephanie H. Weill Center for the Performing Arts, Sheboygan, (renovation)
- Shell Lake Outdoor Amphitheatre
- Lucius Woods Center for the Performing Arts, Solon Springs (new facility)
- Riverfront Arts Center, Stevens Point (renovation)
- Stoughton Opera House (renovation)
- William S. Fairfield Public Gallery Foundation, Sturgeon Bay (new facility)
- Miller Art Museum, Sturgeon Bay (expansion)
- Third Avenue Playhouse, Sturgeon Bay (renovation)
- Fairlawn Mansion and Museum, Superior (renovation)
- Temple Theatre, Viroqua (renovation)
- Trueblood Theatre, Washington Island (new facility)
- Waukesha Civic Theatre (new facility)
- ArtsBlock, Wausau (new facility and renovation)
- Wausau Conservatory of Music (expansion)
- West Bend Art Museum (renovation)
- Young Auditorium, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater (new facility)
- Central Wisconsin Cultural Center, Wisconsin Rapids (renovation)

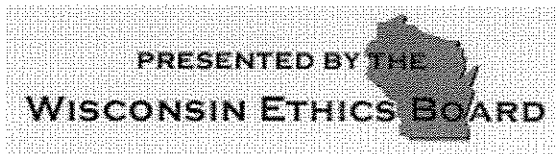
Sources:

Wisconsin Assembly for Local Arts
Wisconsin Arts Board

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as of Thursday, March 11, 2004

2003-2004 legislative session

Legislative bills and resolutions

(search for another legislative bill or resolution at the bottom of this page)

Text, Sponsors and Analysis

Status and Fiscal Estimate

Lobbying Effort on this item

Assembly Bill 176

authorizing the Wisconsin Health and Educational Facilities Authority to issue bonds to finance projects related to cultural facilities.

Organization		These organizations have reported lobbying on this proposal:	Place pointer on icon to display comments click icon to display prior comments		
Profile	Interests		Date Notified	Position	Comm
●	●	Associated Builders and Contractors of Wisconsin Inc	4/24/2003	↑	
●	●	City of Madison	1/14/2004	↑	
●	●	Wisconsin Alliance of Cities Inc	3/27/2003	↑	
●	●	Wisconsin Society of Architects	4/23/2003	↑	

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House
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Proposal Number (enter proposal number)
Legislative Session