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as of Tuesday, February 17, 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 501

the maximum permissible length and width of motor homes and recreational vehicles operated without a permit.

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Profile	Interests	Trucse of gamzations have reported topoying on this proposal:	Dote Matter	or confinence	
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0	0	Recreation Vehicle Industry Association Inc	9/11/2003	<b>\</b>	
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•	<b>()</b>	Wisconsin Automobile & Truck Dealers Association Inc	9/12/2003	<b></b>	

Select a legislative proposal and click "go"

House	Assembly	
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Proposal Type		
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Proposal Number	501	(enter proposal number)
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### Committee on Transportation and Information Infrastructure

Date:	February 23, 2004
Bill Number:	Assembly Bill 501
Moved by:	Senate Committee on Transportation and Information Infrastructure
Motion:	Concurrence of Assembly Bill 501.
Committee Men Senator Mark M	
	Signature: Mark Meyer

### Committee on Transportation and Information Infrastructure

Date:	February 23, 2004				
Bill Number:	Assembly Bill 501				
Moved by:	Senate Committee	on Trans	portati	ion an	d Information Infrastructure
Motion:	Concurrence of As	sembly	Bill 5	01.	
Committee Memb Senator Roger Bro		:	Aye	No	Not Voting
	Signat	ure:		Roge	v Breske

### Committee on Transportation and Information Infrastructure

Date:	February 23, 2004
Bill Number:	Assembly Bill 501
Moved by:	Senate Committee on Transportation and Information Infrastructure
Motion:	Concurrence of Assembly Bill 501.
Committee Membe	Aye No Not Voting
Senator Neal Kedz	ie 🗍 🔲 🗀

Signature:

### Committee on Transportation and Information Infrastructure

<u>Date</u>:

February 23, 2004

Bill Number:

Assembly Bill 501

Moved by:

Senate Committee on Transportation and Information Infrastructure

Motion:

Concurrence of Assembly Bill 501.

**Committee Member** 

**Senator Ted Kanavas** 

<u>Aye</u>

<u>o N</u>

**Not Voting** 

Signature:

### -WISCONSIN ASSEMBLY 2003–2004 SESSION SPEAKER GARD

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### AB 501

### BY KERKMAN PERMISSIBLE LENGTH AND WIDTH OF MOBILE HOMES ${\it PASSAGE}$

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IN CHAIR: FREESE

NO VACANT DISTRICTS

SEQUENCE NO. 473 Thursday, February 05, 2004 7:22 PM

### ang.

### Lindstedt, Daniel

From:

Christianson, Peter C. [PCC@quarles.com]

Sent: To: Tuesday, February 17, 2004 11:39 AM daniel.lindstedt@legis.state.wi.us

Subject:

Assembly Bill 501 merits support







Length Map-PDF.PDF

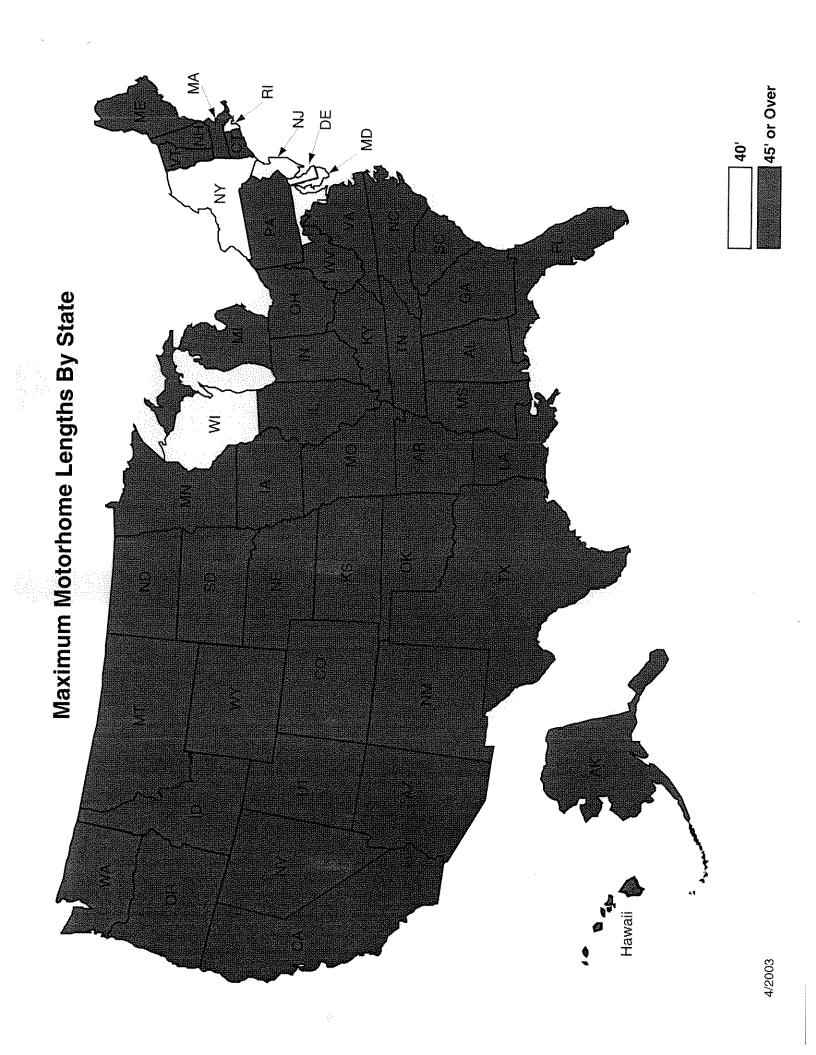
Width Map pdf.PDF AB\_501\_W.pdf

Dan -

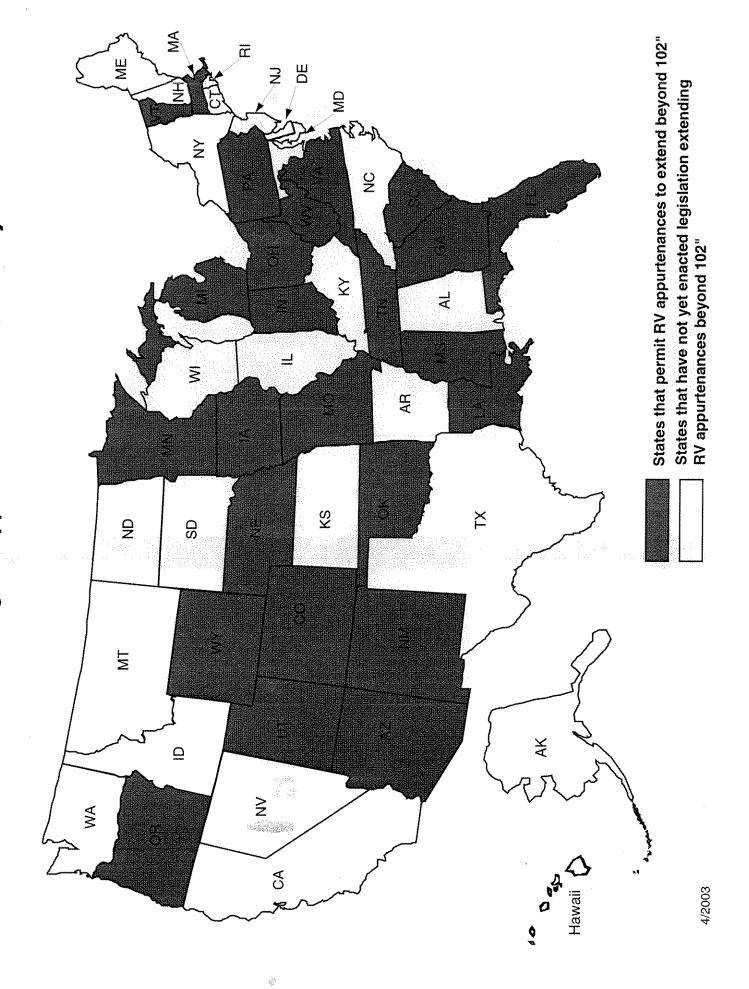
Assembly Bill 501 is up for a hearing tomorrow in the Senate Committee on Transportation and Information Infrastructure. I represent the Recreation Vehicle Industry Association ("RVIA") and will be speaking in favor of the bill at the hearing. I would like to discuss the bill with you prior to the hearing and will give you a call shortly.

In the meantime, here is a brief summary of the bill and why it is needed.

- 1. Under current Wisconsin law, no recreational vehicle longer than 40-feet may be operated on Wisconsin highways without a permit.
- 2. Many manufacturers now offer 45-foot recreational vehicles which are currently being operated in Wisconsin in violation of the law. Wisconsin dealers are not able to sell 45-foot RVs and are therefore at a disadvantage when competing with out-of-state dealers.
- 3. Most states have now changed their laws to permit the operation of 45-foot recreation vehicles, including all of the states which surround Wisconsin.
- 4. Attached is a map which shows the few states which do not yet permit 45-foot recreational vehicles -- Wisconsin, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland. Since the map was prepared, the law has been changed in New York, so now there are just 5 states which do not yet permit 45-foot recreation vehicles.
  - 5. Current Wisconsin law also restricts the total outside width of recreation vehicles to 8 feet 6 inches.
- 6. Unfortunately, the law does not reflect the fact that most recreation vehicles have awnings, mirrors, and door handles which protrude slightly beyond this width.
- 7. The laws in 25 other states -- including most surrounding states -- have been amended to permit factory-installed and dealer-installed appurtenances to extend beyond 8 feet six inches. Here is a map which shows the states which have already made this change.
- 8. The staff at the Department of Transportation worked closely with me in the drafting of AB 501. Loralee Brumund and Carson Frazier looked at our law, recognized that it was outdated, and were willing to help fix the problems. We appreciate their leadership on this issue as well as their support for AB 501. A memo which WisDOT used at the Assembly public hearing is attached.



# States Allowing RV Appurtenances To Extend Beyond 102"





### Wisconsin Department of Transportation

DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES Bureau of Vehicle Services 4802 Sheboygan Ave. P. O. Box 7909 Madison, WI 53707-7909

Telephone (608) 266-2235
Facsimile (FAX) (608) 267-6974
E-mail: bur-veh-services.dmv@dot.state.wi.us

Assembly Committee on Transportation
September 11, 2003
Remarks on AB 501
Loralee Brumund, Division of State Patrol
Carson P. Frazier, Division of Motor Vehicles

AB 501 increases the legal length, without a permit, for motorhomes, from 40' to 45'; and allows motorhomes and recreational vehicles used only as temporary or recreational dwellings, a small additional width allowance for certain appurtenances.

- DOT is speaking in support of AB 501.
- We worked closely with representatives of the recreational vehicle industry in developing the language.
- We appreciate the time and effort the representatives of the recreational vehicle industry put into working with DOT to improve current statute that meets consumer demands yet retains highway safety and is enforceable.
- We know that the recreational vehicle industry, responding to consumer demand, is manufacturing more units with slide-outs, which require awnings.
- Also, we know that recreational vehicles and motorhomes, by their design, have other appurtenances that must extrude from the vehicle.
- Requiring appurtenances to be related to the structure of the vehicle and installed by the manufacturer or dealer ensures a safer physical attachment of the devices, thus maintaining safety for the traveling public.
- The added width of 4" on the left and 6" on the right of the vehicle must also be at least 8' above the ground. This is very important because low extrusions can side-swipe other vehicles clearly we must avoid that.
- The appurtenance allowance does not allow unnecessary devices and items, such as lawn chairs or bicycles, from being hung on the outside walls of the vehicles.
- Increasing the motorhome length to 45' makes motorhome length the same as mobile homes which are both used for the same recreational purpose.
- Since we've developed a very good proposal, we support AB 501 as it is currently written, and we would certainly expect that the bill in its final version will remain true to this language, jointly developed by DOT and the industry representatives.