

07hr_SC-ENR_ab0062_pt01



(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ...
PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS

2007-08

(session year)

Senate

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on ... Environment and Natural
Resources (SC-ENR)

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

- Committee Reports ... **CR**
- Executive Sessions ... **ES**
- Public Hearings ... **PH**

INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

- Appointments ... **Appt** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Clearinghouse Rules ... **CRule** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Hearing Records ... **HR** ... **bills and resolutions** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
 - (**ab** = Assembly Bill) (**ar** = Assembly Resolution) (**ajr** = Assembly Joint Resolution)
 - (**sb** = Senate Bill) (**sr** = Senate Resolution) (**sjr** = Senate Joint Resolution)
- Miscellaneous ... **Misc**

* Contents organized for archiving by: Mike Barman (LRB) (August 2012)

June-2014

Senate

Record of Committee Proceedings

Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Assembly Bill 62

Relating to: electric receptacles maintained by the Department of Natural Resources at state park campsites.

By Representatives Gottlieb, J. Ott, Ballweg, Gronemus, Jeskewitz, Kestell, Kerkman, LeMahieu, Lothian, A. Ott, Petrowski and Townsend; cosponsored by Senators Lehman, Breske, Lassa and Leibham.

February 28, 2008 Referred to Committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

March 3, 2008

PUBLIC HEARING HELD

Present: (5) Senators Miller, Jauch, Wirch, Kedzie and Schultz.

Absent: (0) None.

Appearances For

- Mark Gottlieb, Port Washington — Representative, 60th Assembly District
- Landon Williams, Madison — Department of Natural Resources

Appearances Against

- None.

Appearances for Information Only

- None.

Registrations For

- Kathi Kilgore, Madison — Wisconsin Association of Campground Owners
- Samantha Kerkman, Genoa City — Representative, 66th Assembly District

Registrations Against

- None.

Registrations for Information Only

- None.

March 11, 2008

EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD

Present: (5) Senators Miller, Jauch, Wirch, Kedzie and
Schultz.

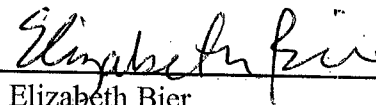
Absent: (0) None.

Moved by Senator Jauch, seconded by Senator Wirch that
Assembly Bill 62 be recommended for concurrence.

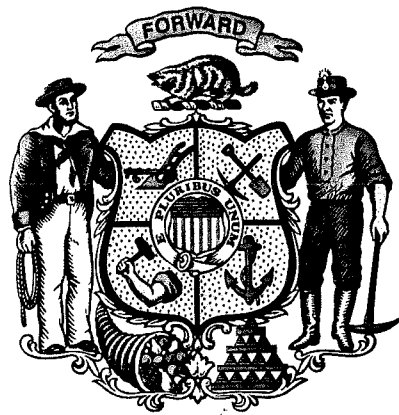
Ayes: (5) Senators Miller, Jauch, Wirch, Kedzie and
Schultz.

Noes: (0) None.

CONCURRENCE RECOMMENDED, Ayes 5, Noes 0



Elizabeth Bier
Committee Clerk



Vote Record

Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Date: 3/11/08

Moved by: Jauch

Seconded by: Wirch

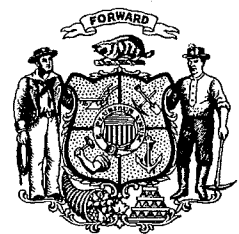
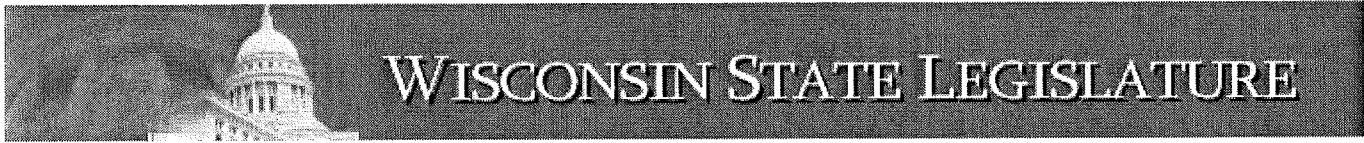
AB 62 SB _____ Clearinghouse Rule _____
 AJR _____ SJR _____ Appointment _____
 AR _____ SR _____ Other _____

A/S Amdt _____
 A/S Amdt _____ to A/S Amdt _____
 A/S Sub Amdt _____
 A/S Amdt _____ to A/S Sub Amdt _____
 A/S Amdt _____ to A/S Amdt _____ to A/S Sub Amdt _____

Be recommended for:
 Passage Adoption Confirmation Concurrence Indefinite Postponement
 Introduction Rejection Tabling Nonconcurrence

<u>Committee Member</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Not Voting</u>
Senator Mark Miller, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator Robert Jauch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator Robert Wirch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator Neal Kedzie	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator Dale Schultz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals:	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>	_____	_____

Motion Carried Motion Failed





GOVERNMENT RELATIONS & ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT

March 3, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
Senator Mark Miller, Chairman

FROM: Kathi Kilgore, Lobbyist
Wisconsin Association of Campground Owners

RE: AB 62 – Expansion of Electricity at State Park Campsites

The Wisconsin Association of Campground Owners (WACO), representing over 200 campgrounds across the state, respectfully requests your support for Assembly Bill 62. The bill:

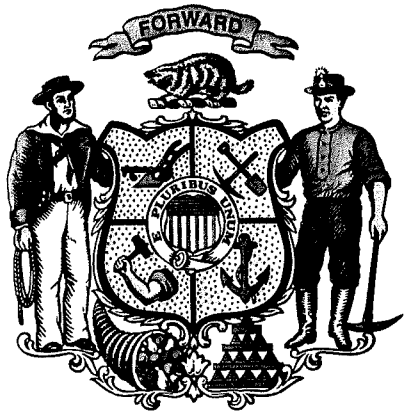
- Increases the number of electrical receptacles throughout the state park system to 30 percent. This is a 5 percent increase over current law.
- Creates a new statute to cap the number of campsites with electricity at any one state park to 50 percent. This per-park cap is in response to WACO's concerns last session. We believe a per-park cap is needed to prevent some state parks from increasing to 75, 80 or 100 percent electricity.

Last session, WACO opposed the bill as it was originally introduced, but we worked with Representative Gottlieb to address our concerns.

WACO believes AB 62 is a fair, reasonable compromise which balances the interests of the private campground industry with the public-funded state parks.

However, we go on record at this time to state that WACO opposes the further addition of other modern conveniences to Wisconsin's state parks. It is our hope that the passage of the AB 62 will "stave off" these attempts by the Department of Natural Resources.

The members of WACO respectfully request your support of AB 62. Thank you for your consideration.





MARK GOTTLIEB

Speaker Pro Tempore
Wisconsin State Assembly

**Testimony of Rep. Mark Gottlieb
Assembly Bill 62
Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
March 3, 2008**

Chairman Miller and Members:

Thank you for holding this public hearing on Assembly Bill 62 (AB 62), relating to electric receptacles maintained by the Department of Natural Resources at state park campsites.

Three years ago a Port Washington constituent contacted me requesting that I introduce legislation increasing the number of electrified campsites in state parks because she was unable to obtain electrical service at a state park she frequents. I introduced 2005 Assembly Bill 150 to raise the cap on the percentage of state park campsites that can be electrified. Concurrently, at a 2005 Natural Resources Board meeting, the Board unanimously approved a proposal calling for the 25% cap on electrified sites for state parks to be increased to 50%. This was the original intent of AB 150, but because of some concerns from private campground owners I offered a substitute amendment which was supported by the Wisconsin Association of Campground Owners. The bill failed to pass but the language in the substitute amendment from last session's bill is the exact same language that is now in AB 62.

Assembly Bill 62 does three things:

- 1) Increases the number of electrified campsites the DNR can have in state parks from 25% of all state park campsites to 30%.
- 2) No more than 50% of the state park campsites in any one state park can have electrified receptacles.
- 3) Maintains current law stipulating that no less than 25% of all state park campsites in the state shall remain rustic.

Of the current 3,610 campsites in the Wisconsin state park's system, 800 (22.16%) are now electrified. By the end of the 2007-09 biennium, as approved by the State Building Commission, there are expected to be 3,952 campsites with 978 (24.7%) electrified. This is only ten less than the current statutory limit so as you can see we are quickly approaching the 25% threshold. Assembly Bill 62 will authorize, but does not require, the DNR to electrify up to 1,186 campsites.

I have been notified by DNR that there are a number of parks with electrical campsites in their master plans, but they are delaying those projects due to the 25% cap. According to

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 60TH DISTRICT

the Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) there are at least 72,000 publicly and privately-owned campsites in Wisconsin. Campsites in state parks account for only 5% of the statewide total, and after this year's expansion, state park campsites will account for only 5.5% of the statewide total.

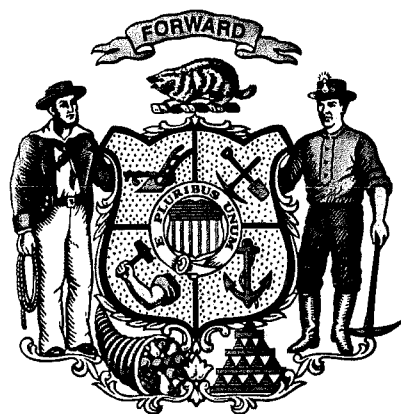
As a state, we have made a policy decision to support, protect and make available to the general public the natural resources and recreational opportunities that our state parks offer. Our state parks should not try to compete with high-service private campgrounds that offer sewer and water hookups, pools, games, restaurants, and other recreational amenities, but we should be willing to provide basic services that will allow more Wisconsin families to enjoy our state park system. Electrical service has clearly become one of those basic services and the public is demanding it. Not only is it in the state's financial interest to support this demand (positive cash flow), the changing demographics of the parks' users is requiring it.

I do believe that campers appreciate the rustic appearance of our state parks, but when electric sites are over 90% occupied in midweek, compared to 30% midweek occupancy for non-electrical sites, the public is telling us something. One of the main complaints from state park campers is the excessive noise that comes from the use of generators to create electricity, so why not provide it to campers through environmentally clean and quiet means? Anyone who visits our parks will also recognize that the state does a wonderful job of concealing and isolating the campsite loops that do have electrical runs. In my opinion it takes nothing away from the natural, rustic aura that the Wisconsin state parks system provides for visitors and campers from all walks of life.

The bill passed the Assembly Committee on Tourism, Recreation and State Properties on a 10-0 vote last May and passed the Joint Committee on Finance 16-0 earlier last month. It is supported by the Wisconsin Association of Campground Owners, the DNR, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Construction Electrician Local Unions.

I respectfully ask that the members of this committee support and take executive action on Assembly Bill 62 before session adjourns.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today.



History of Assembly Bill 62

ASSEMBLY BILL 62

An Act to renumber and amend 27.01 (15) (b); and to create 27.01 (15) (b) 2. of the statutes; relating to: electric receptacles maintained by the Department of Natural Resources at state park campsites. (FE)

2007

- 02-13. A. Introduced by Representatives Gottlieb, J. Ott, Ballweg, Gronemus, Jeskewitz, Kestell, Kerkman, LeMahieu, Lothian, A. Ott, Petrowski and Townsend; cosponsored by Senators Lehman, Breske, Lassa and Leibham.
- 02-13. A. Read first time and referred to committee on Tourism, Recreation and State Properties 55
- 03-08. A. Fiscal estimate received.
- 03-28. A. Fiscal estimate received.
- 03-29. A. Public hearing held.
- 05-10. A. Executive action taken.
- 05-14. A. Report passage recommended by committee on Tourism, Recreation and State Properties, Ayes 10, Noes 0 180
- 05-14. A. Referred to committee on Rules 180
- 07-31. A. Withdrawn from committee on Rules and referred to joint committee on Finance 251

2008

- 01-30. A. Executive action taken.
- 02-04. A. Report passage recommended by joint committee on Finance, Ayes 16, Noes 0 483
- 02-04. A. Referred to committee on Rules 483
- 02-21. A. Placed on calendar 2-26-2008 by committee on Rules.
- 02-26. A. Read a second time 547
- 02-26. A. Ordered to a third reading 547
- 02-26. A. Rules suspended 547
- 02-26. A. Read a third time and passed 547
- 02-26. A. Ordered immediately messaged 547
- 02-27. S. Received from Assembly.
- 02-28. S. Read first time and referred to committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

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