

☞ **07hr_sb0102_SC-TT_pt01**



Details:

(FORM UPDATED: 07/12/2010)

**WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ...
PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS**

2007-08

(session year)

Senate

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

**Committee on ... Transportation and Tourism
(SC-TT)**

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

- Committee Reports ... **CR**
- Executive Sessions ... **ES**
- Public Hearings ... **PH**
- Record of Comm. Proceedings ... **RCP**

INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

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



Chippewa Falls Police Department

210 ISLAND STREET, CHIPPEWA FALLS, WISCONSIN 54729-2351

April 18, 2007

Senator Roger Breske
Chairman
Committee on Transportation, Tourism and Insurance
Room 316 South
State Capitol
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Roger Breske and Committee Members:

My name is Wayne Nehring and I am the Chief of Police for the City of Chippewa Falls. I am here today to speak in support of Senate Bill 102.

Part of my job is to ensure compliance of the alcohol beverage laws within our community. In early 2006, I began working with the Chippewa Falls Renaissance Faire group as they were interested in obtaining a retail alcohol license. Their plan was simple. They wanted to obtain a Class "B" license so they could sell beer and allow attendees to walk about the grounds with their drink, if they desired. As the Renaissance Faire is suitable for people of all ages, they also wanted to allow underage persons to attend.

Unfortunately, this request could not be granted as presently there is no "underage" exemption that would apply to their situation. At that time, I could only suggest they seek a statutory change.

Chapter 125.07(3) identifies 13 statutory provisions which allow underage persons to be on licensed premises in a wide variety of situations. Some of our present exemptions allow underage persons to enter and remain in restaurants, bowling centers, golf courses, and centers for the performing arts.

However, they could not attend the Chippewa Falls Renaissance Faire which by its very nature is a form of performing arts.

In reading our current law, it appears the intent is to establish a "general rule" that restricts underage persons from locations where alcohol is sold, served and consumed. It is then through exemptions whereby underage persons are permitted to enter or remain on various types of premises.

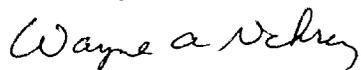
I personally believe that in most cases, underage persons should be restricted from such places, however I also believe there are times and situations when it is reasonable for underage people to be allowed on licensed premises.

I support SB 102, which creates a reasonable exception to Chapter 125.07(3). Although this bill addresses a very specific situation, I believe this is the only viable way to grant this type of exception while at the same time maintaining the intent of our law and without opening a flood gate because of overly broad language.

As the Renaissance Faire has been struggling with this issue for a year now, I would also support any effort to remove the delayed effective date of this bill so that this group can move forward with their plans. Tourism is important to our area's economy and events like the Chippewa Falls Renaissance Faire would contribute to our community's economic growth and development.

Thank you for your consideration.

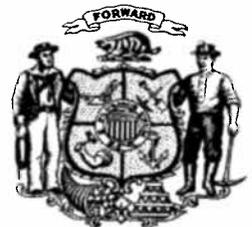
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wayne A. Nehring".

Wayne A. Nehring
Chief of Police



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE





**STATE SENATOR
PAT KREITLOW**

To: Members of the Senate Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Insurance
From: Senator Kreitlow
Date: April 18, 2007
Re: Testimony for SB 102, Creating an exception to the prohibition against underage persons entering or being on premises operating under an alcohol beverage license for the WI Renaissance Faire in Chippewa Falls.

Good morning Chairman Breske and Members of the Committee, and thank you for holding a hearing Senate Bill 102. This bill was drafted by Representative Wood and myself on behalf of the Wisconsin Renaissance Faire and the City of Chippewa Falls.

SB 102 will allow children and young adults under the age of 21 to attend the Renaissance Faire despite the Faire's ability to sell adult beverages. The exception created by this bill is similar to the exceptions currently granted under statute to bowling alleys and fish farms.

The Renaissance Faire is valuable to the Chippewa Valley's economy, and the sale of adult beverages is important for the Renaissance Faire's economic vitality. This bill will encourage the family-oriented nature of the Renaissance Faire by allowing parents to enjoy the Faire with their children while having a beer instead of being forced to sit in a beer garden in order to enjoy a Leinenkugel's Beer.

We ask the committee to consider a simple amendment removing the delayed effective date of the bill. Because the timely passage and enactment of this bill is necessary to allow the Renaissance Faire to operate at its full potential this summer, and because the City of Chippewa Falls is aware and supports the proposed change, we ask that you support passage of SB 102 as amended with the removal of the delayed effective date.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on SB 102 today. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have at this time.