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(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

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

2009-10

(session year)

Senate

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

**Committee on ... Transportation, Tourism,
Forestry, and Natural Resources (SC-TTFNR)**

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 ... 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**

SB 113 Date?

Dear Legislator,

I regret that I cannot be in Madison today to testify before the Senate Natural Resources Committee in support of SB 113, the bill to restore an Independent DNR Secretary. I hope you will consider this written letter in place of my testimony.

My name is Ronald R. Preder and I currently live in Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin. For over 28 years I worked for the Department of Natural Resources both as a Conservation Warden and for the last 18 years as a Warden Supervisor. I retired from the department this past June of 2009.

I continue to enjoy being involved with and support the conservation community both in Sheboygan County and by attending state wide events such as the Conservation Lobby Day hosted by the League of Conservation Voters this past February. I am also a member of the Riverside Hunting and Fishing Club which is located in St. Cloud, on the Fond du Lac/Sheboygan County Line. Riverside was organized in 1936 and supports conservation efforts including public land acquisition, shooting sports, and youth outdoor programs. Riverside Hunting and Fishing Club as an organization has gone on records as supporting both SB 113 and AB 138, (moving to a board appointed DNR Secretary).

In the 28 years that I worked for the DNR I worked both under a Natural Resources Board appointed Secretary and also under a cabinet Secretary appointed by the governor. Many have talked or will talk about the increase in political influence since we have had a cabinet Secretary and how that negatively affects natural resource management. A sound natural resource management program requires long range planning and must include the understanding of the sciences associated with our specific resources.

This issue becomes even more important as the DNR and the state are asked to deal with both regional and global issues such as invasives and exotic species, the Great Lakes, and global climate change. The specific experiences I would like to share with this committee pertain to the inefficiencies that I observed that occur within DNR when a change of Secretary's is made.

In addition to working in the Southeast Region as a Warden Supervisor I spent the last 6 ½ years of my career working with Madison DNR staff on a number of statewide committees both on Chronic Wasting Disease Management and Deer Farm and Deer Farm Fence regulations. This work was tied into department efforts to control the spread of CWD and bovine TB in our wild deer herds. Part of my responsibilities included providing briefings to senior management staff within the DNR including regular briefings to the Secretary office. When Sec. Frank came to DNR he brought two new faces with him to his office (Deputy and the Assistant) and also brought in a new Division Administer for Enforcement and Science. 3 of these 4 new positions had little or no background and/or institutional knowledge of the agency prior coming to DNR. One person did work for DNR, however that experience was related to the water program. Myself as well as other committee members spent a considerable amount of time on a repeat of briefing issues over the first year that Sec. Frank was in place. This was necessary to bring the new senior management positions up to speed on the various issues associated with this one area of responsibility DNR is involved with. There was other work that was delayed and work that fell between the cracks and wasn't accomplished during this transition. It is important to note that the CWD and Deer farms issues that I was involved with and working on with the

Secretary's staff was only one of numerous issues that the department was dealing with during this transition.

During this same period our Chief Warden Randy Stark and others within the Bureau of Law Enforcement were working on transitions issues and doing the same type of work I was involved in for the rest of the Law Enforcement program.

This same transition work was being done throughout the agency in the fish, wildlife, forestry, and environmental programs. The effectiveness of the agency is reduced during these transition periods. Decision making is stalled because of the lack of background and institutional knowledge on the part of senior management staff.

Since 1995, when the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources became a political appointee of the Governor, serious concerns have surfaced questioning the integrity of natural resource decision-making. I believe these concerns are well-founded, and Wisconsin's natural resources have suffered as a result.

Politics plays a role in nearly everything these days. But it should not-must not-play a role in the way we protect Wisconsin's natural resources. Let science determine which wetlands to protect, which lakes to stock, and how to manage deer herds. Politics has no place in my deer stand or at my favorite fishing hole.

I urge you to pass a bill to restore the Independent DNR Secretary and bring integrity back to natural resource decision-making. Please support SB 113.

Sincerely,

Ronald Preder
N 7934 Little Elkhart Lake Road
Elkhart Lake , WI 53020

Dear Legislator,

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Sincerely,

Lynde Uihlein
2635 N Wahl Ave
Milwaukee, WI 53211

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Sincerely,

Joan O'Connor
698 S Washington
Viroqua, WI 54665

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Sincerely,

Jessica Garrels
1301 N Shawano Dr
Marshfield, WI 54449

Dear Senator Lazich,

I realize the letter below is a form letter. I agree with all it has to say. However, I would like you to be aware that to me a mistake was made years ago when the DNR Secretary became an appointed position by the governor. This action took away from the integrity of the DNR Secretary position. This action made it possible for those politically motivated to actually influence what happens to our natural resources within the State of Wisconsin. I have been disappointed that the situation has remained the same for so many years. Now you and other politicians have a chance to make this situation "correct" with an INDEPENDENT Secretary OF THE DNR.

Please think over what you are voting for when you vote to pass SB-113. This positive vote can guarantee to us all that our beautiful natural resources in Wisconsin will have a much better chance of staying as they are. No interference by anyone political, or others that stand to gain from ruining or demolishing natural resources within our state will be able to be paid back for contributions etc. they have made to anyone directly involved in politics.

I would think that you who are for fair and honest government would readily agree.

Please support SB 113

Donna Goodrich

FORM LETTER FOLLOWS:

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Sincerely,

Donna Goodrich
3783 Shady Lane
New Berlin, WI 53146

7, 19

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Sincerely,

**Jessica Helgesen
2903 Downer Avenue
Apt M
Milwaukee, WI 53211**

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THANK YOU.

Sincerely,

Jon L Freis
President - AWTHTDA

Jon Freis
American Wild Turkey Hunting Dog Association
W4747 W Slab City Rd
Bonduel, WI 54107

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Sincerely,

Margaret Lamartina
304 Western
Viroqua, WI 54665

Dear Legislator,

I regret that I cannot be in Madison today to testify before the Senate Natural Resources Committee in support of SB 113, the bill to restore an Independent DNR Secretary. I hope you will consider this written letter in place of my testimony.

I worked 30 years in the DNR, under Secretary's Voight, Earl, Besadny, Meyer, and Bazzell. Unfortunately, I believe these were the glory years, when the WI DNR was much respected, here, across our nation, and internationally.

Since 1995, when the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources became a political appointee of the Governor, serious concerns have surfaced questioning the integrity of natural resource decision-making. I believe these concerns are well-founded, and Wisconsin's natural resources have suffered as a result.

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Sincerely,

Harry Libby
1410 Shirley St.
Middleton, WI 53562

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Sincerely,

Gregory Baneck
3165 West Brewster St.
Appleton, WI 54914

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Sincerely,

Judith Witt-Croswhite
PO Box 336
Danbury, WI 54830

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Sincerely,

Pat Wilkens
W2343 Spirit Wood
Ogema, WI 54459-8759

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Sincerely,

Joyce Frohn
425 Congress Ave
Oshkosh, WI 54901

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Sincerely,

Beth Gehred
500 North Main Street
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

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Sincerely,

Mark Beilfuss
N3813 Mosquito Hill Rd.
New London, WI 54961-9106

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Sincerely,

Kent Borden
1910 N 58 Street
Milwaukee, WI 53208-1622

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Sincerely,

Sara Martinez
E5866 Weber Rd.
Viroqua, WI 54665

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Kathy Doerfer
535 E. South St.
Viroqua, WI 54665

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Sincerely,

Linda Lieb
16163 Moldrem Rd
Ferryville, WI 54628

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Sincerely,

Michael Olson
E4403 Mehner Lane
Viroqua, WI 54665-7829

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Sincerely,

Jennifer Nelson
49369 hickory lane
Steuben, WI 54657

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Judy Trembl
E 758 Church Rd
Luxemburg, WI 54217

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Sincerely,

Dennis Durian
W12149 Ranch Rd.
Crivitz, WI 54114

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Rhonda Matzke
321 S Ontario Street
Depere, WI 54115

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I am not a hunter or fisher, but I live in the country, and I am very aware of the impact of DNR decisions related to development on the rural environment. The combination of population pressure and climate change only increases the importance of basing those decisions on sound science.

I urge you to pass a bill to restore the Independent DNR Secretary and bring integrity back to natural resource decision-making. Please support SB 113.

Sincerely,

Martha Munger
S8821 County Line Road
Mondovi, WI 54755

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Sincerely,

Connie Olson
1515 Fiederic St
Eau Claire, WI 54701

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Sincerely, Jacob Koivisto

Jacob Koivisto
1681 Langlade Ave
Green Bay, WI 54304

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Politics plays a role in nearly everything these days. But it should not-must not-play a role in the way we protect Wisconsin's natural resources. Let science determine which wetlands to protect, which lakes to stock, and how to manage deer herds. Politics has no place in my deer stand or at my favorite fishing hole.

I urge you to pass a bill to restore the Independent DNR Secretary and bring integrity back to natural resource decision-making. Please support SB 113.

Sincerely,

Laura Novak
1229 Manistique Ave
South Milwaukee, WI 53172-3125

Dear Legislator,

I regret that I cannot be in Madison today to testify before the Senate Natural Resources Committee in support of SB 113, the bill to restore an Independent DNR Secretary. I hope you will consider this written letter in place of my testimony.

Since 1995, when the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources became a political appointee of the Governor, serious concerns have surfaced questioning the integrity of natural resource decision-making. I believe these concerns are well-founded, and Wisconsin's natural resources have suffered as a result.

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I urge you to pass a bill to restore the Independent DNR Secretary and bring integrity back to natural resource decision-making. Please support SB 113.

Sincerely,

Jackie Smith
1016 E Green Tree Ct
Appleton, WI 54915

Dear Legislator,

I regret that I cannot be in Madison today to testify before the Senate Natural Resources Committee in support of SB 113, the bill to restore an Independent DNR Secretary. I hope you will consider this written letter in place of my testimony.

Aldo Leopold and Gaylord Nelson both felt very strongly that the DNR Secretary must be kept free of political interference. Having the Secretary function as a political appointee of the governor guarantees that there will be political interference. Please support SB 113 and restore the integrity of the SWisconsin DNR.

Since 1995, when the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources became a political appointee of the Governor, serious concerns have surfaced questioning the integrity of natural resource decision-making. I believe these concerns are well-founded, and Wisconsin's natural resources have suffered as a result.

Politics plays a role in nearly everything these days. But it should not-must not-play a role in the way we protect Wisconsin's natural resources. Let science determine which wetlands to protect, which lakes to stock, and how to manage deer herds. Politics has no place in my deer stand or at my favorite fishing hole.

I urge you to pass a bill to restore the Independent DNR Secretary and bring integrity back to natural resource decision-making. Please support SB 113.

Sincerely,

Charles Frisk
560 Sunrise Circle
Green Bay, WI 54302

DEAR LEGISLATOR,

I REGRET THAT I CANNOT BE IN MADISON TODAY TO TESTIFY BEFORE THE SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE IN SUPPORT OF SB 113, THE BILL TO RESTORE AN INDEPENDENT DNR SECRETARY. I HOPE YOU WILL CONSIDER THIS WRITTEN LETTER IN PLACE OF MY TESTIMONY.

SINCE 1995, WHEN THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES BECAME A POLITICAL APPOINTEE OF THE GOVERNOR, SERIOUS CONCERNS HAVE SURFACED QUESTIONING THE INTEGRITY OF NATURAL RESOURCE DECISION-MAKING. I BELIEVE THESE CONCERNS ARE WELL-FOUNDED, AND WISCONSIN'S NATURAL RESOURCES HAVE SUFFERED AS A RESULT.

POLITICS PLAYS A ROLE IN NEARLY EVERYTHING THESE DAYS. BUT IT SHOULD NOT-MUST NOT-PLAY A ROLE IN THE WAY WE PROTECT WISCONSIN'S NATURAL RESOURCES. LET SCIENCE DETERMINE WHICH WETLANDS TO PROTECT, WHICH LAKES TO STOCK, AND HOW TO MANAGE DEER HERDS. POLITICS HAS NO PLACE IN MY DEER STAND OR AT MY FAVORITE FISHING HOLE.

I URGE YOU TO PASS A BILL TO RESTORE THE INDEPENDENT DNR SECRETARY AND BRING INTEGRITY BACK TO NATURAL RESOURCE DECISION-MAKING. PLEASE SUPPORT SB 113.

SINCERELY,

JASON OLSON
513 NEWHALL ST
GREEN BAY , WI 54302

Dear Legislator,

Please support an independent Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources. I regret that I cannot be in Madison today to testify before the Senate Natural Resources Committee in support of SB 113, the bill to restore an Independent DNR Secretary. I hope you will consider this written letter in place of my testimony. Wisconsin's resources need the best protection possible.

Since 1995, when the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources became a political appointee of the Governor, serious concerns have surfaced questioning the integrity of natural resource decision-making. I believe these concerns are well-founded, and Wisconsin's natural resources have suffered as a result.

Politics plays a role in nearly everything these days. But it should not-must not-play a role in the way we protect Wisconsin's natural resources. Let science determine which wetlands to protect, which lakes to stock, and how to manage deer herds. Politics has no place in my deer stand or at my favorite fishing hole.

I urge you to pass a bill to restore the Independent DNR Secretary and bring integrity back to natural resource decision-making. Please support SB 113.

Sincerely,

Edie Ehlert
15981 Moldrem Rd
Ferryville, WI 54628

Dear Legislator,

I regret that I cannot be in Madison today to testify before the Senate Natural Resources Committee in support of SB 113, the bill to restore an Independent DNR Secretary. I hope you will consider this written letter in place of my testimony.

Since 1995, when the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources became a political appointee of the Governor, serious concerns have surfaced questioning the integrity of natural resource decision-making. I believe these concerns are well-founded, and Wisconsin's natural resources have suffered as a result.

Politics plays a role in nearly everything these days. But it should not-must not-play a role in the way we protect Wisconsin's natural resources. Let science determine which wetlands to protect, which lakes to stock, and how to manage deer herds. Politics has no place in my deer stand or at my favorite fishing hole.

I urge you to pass a bill to restore the Independent DNR Secretary and bring integrity back to natural resource decision-making. Please support SB 113.

Sincerely,

Heather Mullee
1020 E Lyon #305
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Legislator,

I regret that I cannot be in Madison today to testify before the Senate Natural Resources Committee in support of SB 113, the bill to restore an Independent DNR Secretary. I hope you will consider this written letter in place of my testimony.

Since 1995, when the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources became a political appointee of the Governor, serious concerns have surfaced questioning the integrity of natural resource decision-making. I believe these concerns are well-founded, and Wisconsin's natural resources have suffered as a result.

Politics plays a role in nearly everything these days. But it should not-must not-play a role in the way we protect Wisconsin's natural resources. Let science determine which wetlands to protect, which lakes to stock, and how to manage deer herds. Politics has no place in my deer stand or at my favorite fishing hole.

I urge you to pass a bill to restore the Independent DNR Secretary and bring integrity back to natural resource decision-making. Please support SB 113.

Sincerely,

David Rosenheim
Kickapoo Valley Road
Steuben, WI 54657

Dear Legislator,

I regret that I cannot be in Madison today to testify before the Senate Natural Resources Committee in support of SB 113, the bill to restore an Independent DNR Secretary. I hope you will consider this written letter in place of my testimony.

Since 1995, when the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources became a political appointee of the Governor, serious concerns have surfaced questioning the integrity of natural resource decision-making. I believe these concerns are well-founded, and Wisconsin's natural resources have suffered as a result.

Politics plays a role in nearly everything these days. But it should not-must not-play a role in the way we protect Wisconsin's natural resources. Let science determine which wetlands to protect, which lakes to stock, and how to manage deer herds. Politics has no place in my deer stand or at my favorite fishing hole.

I urge you to pass a bill to restore the Independent DNR Secretary and bring integrity back to natural resource decision-making. Please support SB 113.

Sincerely,

Ken Vanden Heuvel
5483 Elmwood Ln
Luxemburg, WI 54217

Dear Legislator,

I regret that I cannot be in Madison today to testify before the Senate Natural Resources Committee in support of SB 113, the bill to restore an Independent DNR Secretary. I hope you will consider this written letter in place of my testimony.

Since 1995, when the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources became a political appointee of the Governor, serious concerns have surfaced questioning the integrity of natural resource decision-making. I believe these concerns are well-founded, and Wisconsin's natural resources have suffered as a result.

Politics plays a role in nearly everything these days. But it should not-must not-play a role in the way we protect Wisconsin's natural resources. Let science determine which wetlands to protect, which lakes to stock, and how to manage deer herds. Politics has no place in my deer stand or at my favorite fishing hole.

I urge you to pass a bill to restore the Independent DNR Secretary and bring integrity back to natural resource decision-making. Please support SB 113.

Sincerely,

Dave Gjeston
18275 O'Neil Road
Mineral Point, WI 53565

Dear Legislator,

I regret that I cannot be in Madison today to testify before the Senate Natural Resources Committee in support of SB 113, the bill to restore an Independent DNR Secretary. I hope you will consider this written letter in place of my testimony.

Since 1995, when the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources became a political appointee of the Governor, serious concerns have surfaced questioning the integrity of natural resource decision-making. I believe these concerns are well-founded, and Wisconsin's natural resources have suffered as a result.

Politics plays a role in nearly everything these days. But it should not-must not-play a role in the way we protect Wisconsin's natural resources. Let science determine which wetlands to protect, which lakes to stock, and how to manage deer herds. I a registered independent voter and I think the DNR secretary should be independent too.

I urge you to pass a bill to restore the Independent DNR Secretary and bring integrity back to natural resource decision-making. Please support SB 113.

Sincerely,

Cindy Owen
3029 N. 7th Street
Wausau, WI 54403

Dear Legislator,

I regret that I cannot be in Madison today to testify before the Senate Natural Resources Committee in support of SB 113, the bill to restore an Independent DNR Secretary. I hope you will consider this written letter in place of my testimony.

Since 1995, when the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources became a political appointee of the Governor, the system of natural resource decision making has been broken.

Politics plays a role in nearly everything these days. But it should not-must not-play a role in the way we protect Wisconsin's natural resources. Let science determine which wetlands to protect, which lakes to stock, and how to manage deer herds. Politics has no place in my deer stand or at my favorite fishing hole.

I urge you to pass a bill to restore the Independent DNR Secretary and bring integrity back to natural resource decision-making. Please support SB 113.

Sincerely,

Michael Johnson
1401 Oakwood Dr.
Spooner, WI 54801

Dear Legislator,

I regret that I cannot be in Madison today to testify before the Senate Natural Resources Committee in support of SB 113, the bill to restore an Independent DNR Secretary. I hope you will consider this written letter in place of my testimony.

Since 1995, when the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources became a political appointee of the Governor, serious concerns have surfaced questioning the integrity of natural resource decision-making. I believe these concerns are well-founded, and Wisconsin's natural resources have suffered as a result.

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I urge you to pass a bill to restore the Independent DNR Secretary and bring integrity back to natural resource decision-making. Please support SB 113.

Sincerely,

Rick Fare
810 Indiana
Racine, WI 53405

Dear Legislator,

I regret that I cannot be in Madison today to testify before the Senate Natural Resources Committee in support of SB 113, the bill to restore an Independent DNR Secretary. I hope you will consider this written letter in place of my testimony.

Since 1995, when the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources became a political appointee of the Governor, serious concerns have surfaced questioning the integrity of natural resource decision-making. I believe these concerns are well-founded, and Wisconsin's natural resources have suffered as a result.

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I urge you to pass a bill to restore the Independent DNR Secretary and bring integrity back to natural resource decision-making. Please support SB 113.

Sincerely,

Mark Sethne
1971 Fountain Bluff La.
Platteville, WI 53818

Dear Legislator,

I regret that I cannot be in Madison today to testify before the Senate Natural Resources Committee in support of SB 113, the bill to restore an Independent DNR Secretary. I hope you will consider this written letter in place of my testimony.

Since 1995, when the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources became a political appointee of the Governor, serious concerns have surfaced questioning the integrity of natural resource decision-making. I believe these concerns are well-founded, and Wisconsin's natural resources have suffered as a result.

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I urge you to pass a bill to restore the Independent DNR Secretary and bring integrity back to natural resource decision-making. Please support SB 113.

Sincerely,

Shawn Loveless
N2162 State Hwy 47
Bonduel, WI 54107

12,35

SB 113
file

Date?

Dear Legislator,

I regret that I cannot be in Madison today to testify before the Assembly Natural Resources Committee in support of AB 138, the bill to restore an Independent DNR Secretary. I hope you will consider this written letter in place of my testimony.

Since 1995, when the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources became a political appointee of the Governor, serious concerns have surfaced questioning the integrity of natural resource decision-making. I believe these concerns are well-founded, and Wisconsin's natural resources have suffered as a result.

Politics plays a role in nearly everything these days. But it should not-must not-play a role in the way we protect Wisconsin's natural resources. Let science determine which wetlands to protect, which lakes to stock, and how to manage deer herds. Politics has no place in my deer stand or at my favorite fishing hole.

I urge you to pass a bill to restore the Independent DNR Secretary and bring integrity back to natural resource decision-making. Please support AB 138.

Sincerely,

Marie Schultz
N10057 Sunset Point Rd.
Tomahawk, WI 54487

Dear Legislator,

I regret that I cannot be in Madison today to testify before the Assembly Natural Resources Committee in support of AB 138, the bill to restore an Independent DNR Secretary. I hope you will consider this written letter in place of my testimony.

Since 1995, when the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources became a political appointee of the Governor, serious concerns have surfaced questioning the integrity of natural resource decision-making. I believe these concerns are well-founded, and Wisconsin's natural resources have suffered as a result.

Politics plays a role in nearly everything these days. But it should not-must not-play a role in the way we protect Wisconsin's natural resources. Let science determine which wetlands to protect, which lakes to stock, and how to manage deer herds. Politics has no place in my deer stand or at my favorite fishing hole.

I urge you to pass a bill to restore the Independent DNR Secretary and bring integrity back to natural resource decision-making. Please support AB 138.

Sincerely,

Jeff & Karol Mahner
3731 Lake Thompson Road
Rhinelander, WI 54501

Dear Legislator,

I regret that I cannot be in Madison today to testify before the Assembly Natural Resources Committee in support of AB 138, the bill to restore an Independent DNR Secretary. I hope you will consider this written letter in place of my testimony.

Since 1995, when the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources became a political appointee of the Governor, serious concerns have surfaced questioning the integrity of natural resource decision-making. I believe these concerns are well-founded, and Wisconsin's natural resources have suffered as a result.

Politics plays a role in nearly everything these days. But it should not-must not-play a role in the way we protect Wisconsin's natural resources. Let science determine which wetlands to protect, which lakes to stock, and how to manage deer herds. Politics has no place in my deer stand or at my favorite fishing hole.

I urge you to pass a bill to restore the Independent DNR Secretary and bring integrity back to natural resource decision-making. Please support AB 138.

Sincerely,

James Waters
N6530 Hwy 55
White Lake, WI 54491

Dear Legislator,

I regret that I cannot be in Madison today to testify before the Assembly Natural Resources Committee in support of AB 138, the bill to restore an Independent DNR Secretary. I hope you will consider this written letter in place of my testimony.

Since 1995, when the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources became a political appointee of the Governor, serious concerns have surfaced questioning the integrity of natural resource decision-making. I believe these concerns are well-founded, and Wisconsin's natural resources have suffered as a result.

Politics plays a role in nearly everything these days. But it should not-must not-play a role in the way we protect Wisconsin's natural resources. Let science determine which wetlands to protect, which lakes to stock, and how to manage deer herds. Politics has no place in my deer stand or at my favorite fishing hole.

I urge you to pass a bill to restore the Independent DNR Secretary and bring integrity back to natural resource decision-making. Please support AB 138.

Sincerely,

Scott Durian
N13905 Mathis Rd
Amberg, WI 54102

Dear Legislator,

I regret that I cannot be in Madison today to testify before the Assembly Natural Resources Committee in support of AB 138, the bill to restore an Independent DNR Secretary. I hope you will consider this written letter in place of my testimony.

Since 1995, when the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources became a political appointee of the Governor, serious concerns have surfaced questioning the integrity of natural resource decision-making. I believe these concerns are well-founded, and Wisconsin's natural resources have suffered as a result.

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I urge you to pass a bill to restore the Independent DNR Secretary and bring integrity back to natural resource decision-making. Please support AB 138.

Sincerely,

Dennis Durian
W12149 Ranch Rd.
Crivitz, WI 54114

Please Support AB 138- Independent DNR Secretary

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Sincerely,

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N6530 Hwy 55
White Lake, WI 54491

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Amberg, WI 54102