

WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2001 Assembly Bill 239

Assembly Amendments 1, 2 and 3

Memo published: June 13, 2001 Contact: Mark C. Patronsky, Senior Staff Attorney (266-9280)

Assembly Bill 239 contains various changes to the current statutes that apply to the operation of snowmobiles, snowmobile races and funding for various snowmobile activities.

Assembly Amendment 1 deletes a provision of the bill that would authorize wardens and law enforcement officers to stop and inspect a snowmobile to determine if it is in good working order. The warden or law enforcement officer would be authorized to order the snowmobile not to be used until it has been repaired. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and federally recognized Indian tribes and bands would be prohibited from registering snowmobiles that failed an equipment inspection until repairs are made. The original fiscal estimate identified a need for 1.5 FTE and associated costs for this new function. A supplemental fiscal estimate, reflecting the bill as affected by Assembly Amendment 1, shows minimal costs associated with the remainder of the bill that can be absorbed within the current agency budget.

Assembly Amendment 2 increases the fee for a trail use sticker that is required for a snowmobile that is registered in another state or country. The fee is increased from \$12.25 to \$17.25. In addition, the amendment increases from \$10 to \$15 the amount of each snowmobile trail use fee that is appropriated from the snowmobile account in the Conservation Fund for purposes of snowmobile signs, bridges and trails. These changes are also included in the Governor's budget bill and in the budget proposal of the Joint Committee on Finance.

Assembly Amendment 3 changes the provision regarding determination of the noise level of a snowmobile. The bill eliminates the current requirement to use society of automotive engineers standards and substitutes authorization for the DNR to determine the manner of measurement. The amendment clarifies that the DNR authority is to establish "procedures" for measurement of snowmobile noise.

Assembly Amendments 1, 2 and 3 were adopted by the Assembly by a voice vote on June 12, 2001. Assembly Bill 239 passed the Assembly by a vote of Ayes, 99, Noes, 0.