



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2007 Assembly Bill 504

**Assembly Substitute
Amendment 1**

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Under *current law*, the Secretary of Natural Resources is nominated by the Governor and, with the advice and consent of the Senate, appointed to serve at the pleasure of the Governor. Current law is an exception to the general rule in s. 15.05 (1) (a), Stats., which provides that in a department supervised by a board, the board appoints the secretary to serve at the pleasure of the board.

Assembly Bill 504 deletes the exception in current statutes in which the Secretary of Natural Resources is nominated by the Governor and appointed with the advice and consent of the Senate to serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 contains the provisions of the bill described above, and additionally provides that the Secretary of Natural Resources is to be appointed by the Natural Resources Board for a four-year term. In addition, under current law, when an appointive state office that has a specific term becomes vacant, the new appointee is appointed to fill the remainder of the unexpired term. The substitute amendment provides that if the Office of the Secretary of Natural Resources becomes vacant, the new appointee serves a full four-year term beginning upon appointment.

Legislative History

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 was offered by Representative Gunderson and Black on December 6, 2007. The Assembly Committee on Natural Resources, on February 4, 2008, recommended adoption of Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 and passage of the bill as amended each by a vote of Ayes, 13; Noes, 1.

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