



1999 ASSEMBLY BILL 464

September 14, 1999 - Introduced by Representatives SERATTI, ALBERS, MUSSER, PETROWSKI, SYKORA, KREIBICH, KELSO, BRANDEMUEHL, RYBA and GRONEMUS, cosponsored by Senator ZIEN. Referred to Committee on Tourism and Recreation.

1 **AN ACT to create** 30.26 (4) of the statutes; **relating to:** construction of certain
2 bridges over wild rivers.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the legislature may designate rivers as part of the state's wild river system. The department of natural resources (DNR) administers the system to preserve, protect and enhance the rivers' natural beauty and unique recreational value. Currently portions of the Pike, Pine and Popple rivers are designated as wild rivers.

Under current rules promulgated by DNR, bridges, other than state and municipal highway bridges, may only be constructed over scenic rivers if they meet certain conditions. These conditions include requirements that the bridge is necessary for access to a dwelling and that the bridge results in the least impact possible on the natural condition and beauty of the river. The bridge must be limited to pedestrian use unless there is a need, other than for convenience, that vehicles be allowed on the bridge.

Under this bill, DNR may not prohibit or impose any requirements on the construction of a bridge over a wild river if the use of the bridge is limited to snowmobile operators, all-terrain vehicle operators or pedestrians, or any combination of these persons, and if the bridge is constructed in whole or in part by a snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle club.

