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2005 SENATE BILL 428

November 9, 2005 – Introduced by Senators Jauch and Lassa, cosponsored by Representatives Sherman, Parisi, Musser, Freese, Grigsby, Pocan, Wasserman, Turner and Boyle. Referred to Committee on State and Federal Relations.

AN ACT to amend 27.01 (2) (h), 27.01 (5), 28.03 (3) and 82.03 (7); and to create
2 23.09 (20r), 23.25 (2r), 66.1012 and 84.01 (33) of the statutes; relating to:
3 prohibiting certain state agencies or any city, village, town, or county from
4 using the word squaw in the name of a public place, highway, or geographic
5 feature.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill prohibits the Department of Transportation and the Department of Natural Resources (departments) and any political subdivision (city, village, town, or county) from using the word "squaw" in the name of any public place, highway, or geographic feature such as a body of water or natural landmark. If the word "squaw" is currently being used in that manner in any area of the state that is under the jurisdiction of the departments or in any political subdivision, the name of the place must be changed.

For further information see the **state and local** fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

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legislature.

23.09 (20r) Names of department property. The department may not use the
word "squaw" in the name of any property under the jurisdiction of the department.
If the word "squaw" is used in a name for any such property on the effective date of
this subsection [revisor inserts date], the department shall change the name to
eliminate the use of the word "squaw".
Section 2. 23.25 (2r) of the statutes is created to read:
23.25 (2r) The department may not use the word "squaw" in the name of any
lake, stream, place, or other geographic feature. If the word "squaw" is used in a
name for any lake, stream, place, or other geographic feature on the effective date
of this subsection [revisor inserts date], the department shall change the name
to eliminate the use of the word "squaw."
Section 3. 27.01 (2) (h) of the statutes is amended to read:
27.01 (2) (h) Designate Subject to s. 23.09 (2or), designate by appropriate name
any state park not expressly named by the legislature.
Section 4. 27.01 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:
27.01 (5) ROADSIDE PARKS. All areas designated as roadside parks shall be a part
of the state park system. Roadside parks will consist of naturally attractive parcels
of land, 5 acres or more in size, immediately contiguous to a state trunk highway.
Each such area shall carry Subject to s. 23.09 (2or), the department shall give each
roadside park a distinctive name and shall be managed and developed manage and
develop it as a part of the state park system.
Section 5. 28.03 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:
28.03 (3) Department may name. The Subject to s. 23.09 (2or), the department
may designate by appropriate name any state forest not expressly named by the

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Section 6. 66.1012 of the statutes is created to read:

66.1012 Use of "squaw" in place names prohibited. No city, village, town, or county may use the word "squaw" in the name of any public place, including a highway, as defined in s. 340.01 (22), a jurisdictional area, a body of water, or a recreation area of any kind. If the word "squaw" is in use in a public place name in a city, village, town, or county on the effective date of this section [revisor inserts date], the city, village, town, or county shall change the name to eliminate the use of the word "squaw."

Section 7. 82.03 (7) of the statutes is amended to read:

82.03 (7) Highway names. The town board shall, by ordinance, <u>subject to s.</u>
66.1012, assign a name to each of the roads that are under the town's jurisdiction.

No road name may be used on more than one road within the jurisdiction of the town.

Section 8. 84.01 (33) of the statutes is created to read:

84.01 (33) Names of department property. The department may not use the word "squaw" in the name of any highway, as defined in s. 340.01 (22), or other property under the jurisdiction of the department. If the word "squaw" is used in a name for any such highway or property on the effective date of this subsection [revisor inserts date], the department shall change the name to eliminate the use of the word "squaw."

20 (END)