

JOURNAL OF THE ASSEMBLY [August 26, 1969]

STATE OF WISCONSIN

# Assembly Journal

Seventy-Ninth Regular Session

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TUESDAY, August 26, 1969.

9:00 A.M.

The assembly met.

Assemblyman Packard in the chair.

Roll call was dispensed with.

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## PETITIONS

**Assembly Petition 295**

By Assemblyman McDougal.

To committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs.

**Assembly Petition 296**

By Assemblyman Merkel.

To committee on Education.

**Assembly Petition 297**

By Assemblyman Luckhardt.

To committee on Education.

**Assembly Petition 298**

By Assemblyman Nuttelman.

To committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs.

**Assembly Petition 299**

By Assemblyman Anderson.

To committee on Agriculture.

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**Assembly Petition 300**

By Assemblyman Tregoning.

To committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs.

**Assembly Petition 301**

By Assemblyman Luckhardt.

To committee on Public Welfare.

**Assembly Petition 302**

By Assemblyman Kafka.

To committee on Highways.

**Assembly Petition 303**

By Assemblyman L. H. Johnson.

To committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs.

**Assembly Petition 304**

By Assemblyman McDougal.

To committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs.

**Assembly Petition 305**

By Assemblyman Thompson.

To committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs.

**Assembly Petition 306**

By Assemblyman Merkel.

To committee on Education.

**Assembly Petition 307**

By Assemblyman Molinaro.

To committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs.

**Assembly Petition 308**

By Assemblyman Merkel.

To committee on Public Welfare.

**Assembly Petition 309**

By Assemblyman York.

To committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs.

**Assembly Petition 310**

By Assemblyman Thompson.

To committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs.

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EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS

VETO MESSAGE

August 22, 1969.

To The Honorable, The Assembly:

I am returning **Assembly Bill 362** to you without my approval.

Wisconsin's priceless land and water resources are among the state's greatest assets, prized by our citizens for both their economic and esthetic values. The Wisconsin Legislature recognized the critical importance of preserving and restoring these resources through the enactment in 1967 of certain laws which delineated a comprehensive, integrated program of natural resource protection. Chapter 83, Laws of 1967, invested authority for statewide control of solid waste disposal in the same state agency which has general supervision and control over the water resources of this state.

The Legislature, at that time, very correctly and forcefully recognized that the pollution of our environment, by whatever means, is a matter of statewide concern and requires statewide coordination.

**Assembly Bill 362** would create mandatory county commissions on waste disposal to administer the current solid waste disposal program. The county commissions would be given the authority to alter most of the basic minimum standards established by the Department of Natural Resources.

This power to alter minimum standards amounts to power to neutralize the state's solid waste disposal program and would threaten to destroy the comprehensive pollution control concept of Chapter 83, Laws of 1967. It could have the effect of undermining an essential element in the state's anti-pollution program.

Water and air resources are not bound by political district boundaries or county lines. Consequently, when one local unit of government defaults in its responsibilities, other units inevitably suffer. For example, downstream cities suffer when upstream cities fail to deal adequately with municipal pollution of water resources. Air resources likewise defy geographic and jurisdictional boundaries and can carry pollutants from one area to another, from one

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county to another. Therefore, city, town and county pollution control efforts can only be effective when uniform minimum standards are imposed on a statewide basis.

The setting of minimum standards by the state need not unduly burden any community. For instance, the current amendments to the rules adopted by the Natural Resources Board create special exemptions for small communities. The standards set for these small communities are reasonable and well within the reach of any town in Wisconsin. It appears that the concern of rural townships in introducing this legislation has been answered by these amendments. This is an example of rule-making which reflects a flexible approach while retaining some over-all control of standards for the benefit of the state as a whole.

At the same time, I favor local involvement in the control of pollution since the county is in a position to assess its own unique needs and can better monitor violations. Accordingly, I have directed the Natural Resources Board to seek procedures through legislation which would involve the counties in much the same way that they are encouraged to participate by the provisions of Section 144.41, Wisconsin Statutes, which deal with local air pollution control programs. Municipal and county cooperation with the state in an all-out effort to control pollution can be particularly effective so long as the state is allowed to set uniform minimum standards. Ideally, the county would be permitted to elaborate on these minimum standards and be given enforcement powers over those additional standards they create by ordinance.

Although the Legislature has not yet authorized this procedure in the case of solid waste disposal, it seems consistent to recommend that it do so. Section 144.31 (c), Wisconsin Statutes, directs the Department of Natural Resources to "encourage local units of government to handle air pollution *and solid waste* disposal problems within their respective jurisdictions and on a regional basis, and provide technical and consultive assistance therefor." (emphasis supplied)

For the above reasons, I am returning Assembly Bill 362 without any approval.

Respectfully submitted,

WARREN P. KNOWLES,  
Governor.

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The State of Wisconsin  
Executive Office  
Madison 53702

August 25, 1969.

To the Honorable, the Assembly:

The following bill, originating in the Assembly, has been approved, signed and deposited in the office of the Secretary of State.

Assembly Bill	Chapter No.	Date Approved
83 -----	153 -----	August 25, 1969

Respectfully submitted,

WARREN P. KNOWLES,  
Governor.

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**SPEAKER'S APPOINTMENTS**

Natural Beauty Council

Assemblyman Carolyn Blanchard (R-Edgerton), re-  
appointment.

Assemblyman Norman C. Anderson (D-Madison), re-  
appointment.

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The Assembly adjourned to 9:00 A.M. Friday, August  
29, 1969.

Motion carried.