



STATE OF WISCONSIN

Senate Journal

Ninety–Third Regular Session

2:00 P.M.

TUESDAY, January 14, 1997

The Senate met.

The Senate was called to order by Senator Fred Risser.

The Chair, with unanimous consent, asked that the proper entries be made in the journal.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

The committee on **Senate Organization** reports and recommends:

Pursuant to Senate Rule 20(1)(c), the following shall be the committees of the Senate for the 1997–98 legislative session.

- Administrative Rules (5)**
 - Agriculture and Environmental Resources (5)**
 - Audit (5)**
 - Economic Development, Housing and Government Operations (5)**
 - Education (7)**
 - Finance (8)**
 - Health, Human Services, Aging, Corrections, Veterans and Military Affairs (7)**
 - Insurance, Tourism and Rural Affairs (5)**
 - Information Policy (5)**
 - Judiciary, Campaign Finance Reform and Consumer Affairs (5)**
 - Labor, Transportation and Financial Institutions (7)**
 - Utility Regulation (7)**
- Ayes, 5 – Senators Chvala, Risser, Moen, Ellis and Rude.
Noes, 0 – None.

Charles Chvala
Senate Chairperson

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

State of Wisconsin Department of Employment Relations

January 7, 1997

The Honorable, The Senate:

Pursuant to s.230.04(13)(e), Stats., the annual report of the Department of Employment Relations, Division of Affirmative Action is hereby submitted. Please distribute the enclosed announcements of the report's availability to members of the Senate.

Additional copies may be obtained from the Department of Employment Relations, Division of Affirmative Action, 137 East Wilson Street, Madison 53702. The telephone number is (608)266–5709.

Sincerely,
JON E. LITSCHER
Secretary

State of Wisconsin Department of Employment Relations

January 10, 1997

The Honorable, The Senate:

Please find the enclosed four documents from the Education Commission of the States (ECS), of which Governor Thompson is the past chairman.

1. 1995–96 Annual Report
2. 1996 Education Agenda
3. A copy of the ECS bylaws with amendments, if any
4. 1995–96 ECS Highlights

The ECS is required to file these with your office in order to meet its statutory requirements under ss. 39.75 and 39.76, Wis. Stats. If there are any questions please call me at 266–9820.

Sincerely,

JON E. LITSCHER
Secretary

State of Wisconsin Governor Task Force

January 2, 1997

The Honorable, The Legislature:

I am submitting the report of the Governor's Task Force on Cheese Pricing.

The report's recommendations address federal milk pricing policy, cheese market information services, and regulatory oversight of the National Cheese Exchange. Addressing these issues will require federal actions, and the Task Force urges you to relay these recommendations to the appropriate federal authorities.

The Task Force has also made recommendations regarding the operations of National Cheese Exchange. We encourage you to forward these recommendations to the Board of Directors of the Exchange. We recognize that the Exchange is a private, non-stock corporation whose by-laws and rules regulating trading are governed by its member-elected board. These recommendations are intended to help improve public confidence in the Exchange and to broaden participation in and access to trading on the Exchange.

On behalf of the members of the Task Force, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to assist you in your efforts to improve the current cheese pricing system.

Sincerely,

ROBERT H. BURNS
Chair

**State of Wisconsin
Department of Employee Trust Funds**

October, 1996

The Honorable, The Legislature:

I am pleased to present you with the 1995 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of the Wisconsin Department of Employee Trust Funds (ETF). We continue to accelerate the completion of our complicated financial audit following each year's receipt of the final opinion of the Legislative Audit Bureau. Improving the timeliness of these reports has been a main objective over the past few years.

ETF manages the public employe retirement program and a number of other fringe benefit programs for all state agencies and many local governments in Wisconsin. As the 1995 report shows, we manage retirement and benefit accounts for 88,998 retired persons living throughout the world, 236,274 active employes at all levels of public employment and another 88,437 former employes who have kept their accounts active and who will take future benefits.

The narrative summary of ETF's programs is found in the Introduction of this report. This year's report features the Wisconsin Deferred Compensation program, a fast growing benefit program available to state employes and to local

government employes who choose to participate. Participation in Deferred Compensation has grown 160% in the past nine years.

The 1995 report contains audited financial data and statistical material, the all-important actuarial report and other related data. To meet the state's requirement for publication of a biennial or annual report we also include material on our objectives, accomplishments, legislation affecting our programs and other information.

Your comments are welcomed and can be directed to me at (608)266-1071 or to Sandy Drew, our Director of Legislation and Planning, at (608)267-2929.

Sincerely,

ERIC O. STANCHFIELD
ETF Secretary

ADJOURNMENT

Senator Risser, with unanimous consent, asked that the Senate adjourn until Tuesday, January 28 at 10:00 A.M..

Adjourned.

2:01 P.M.