

Assembly Hearing Slip

(Please print plainly)

Date: Oct 16, 1997

Bill No. AB502

Of
Subject _____

David VanHaufland
(Name)

1701 Townsend Ave
(Street Address or Route Number)

Stoughton, VT
(City & ZIP Code)

GRAND ARK Inc
(Representing)

Speaking In favor:

Speaking against:

Registering In favor:

Registering against:

Speaking for information only:
Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger promptly.

Assembly Sergeant at Arms
Room 411 West
State Capitol
Madison, VT 53702

Assembly Hearing Slip

(Please print plainly)

Date: 10/16/97

Bill No. AB-502

Of
Subject _____

David Nispel
(Name)

117 W. Spring St
(Street Address or Route Number)

Chippewa Falls 54729
(City & ZIP Code)

WIS. Farmers Union
(Representing)

Speaking In favor:

Speaking against:

Registering In favor:

Registering against:

Speaking for information only:
Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger promptly.

Assembly Sergeant at Arms
Room 411 West
State Capitol
Madison, VT 53702

Assembly Hearing Slip

(Please print plainly)

Date: 10/16/97

Bill No. AB 502

Or

Subject

ROGER CLIFFE

(Name)

BOX 5558

(Street Address or Route Number)

MADISON 53705

(City & Zip Code)

WIS. FARM BUREAU

(Representing)

Speaking In favor:

Speaking against:

Registering In favor:

Registering against:

Speaking for Information only:

Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger promptly.

Assembly Sergeant at Arms
Room 411 West
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Assembly Hearing Slip

(Please print plainly)

Date: 10-16-97

Bill No. AB 502

Or

Subject

Russ Weisencel

(Name)

2591 Walton Commons W1432

(Street Address or Route Number)

Madison 53718

(City & Zip Code)

WI Farm Bureau Council

(Representing)

Speaking In favor:

Speaking against:

Registering In favor:

Registering against:

Speaking for Information only:

Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger promptly.

Assembly Sergeant at Arms
Room 411 West
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Assembly Hearing Slip

(Please print plainly)

Date: 10/16/97

Bill No. AB-502

Or

Subject

Ron Statz

(Name)

By David Nispel

(Street Address or Route Number)

Sauk City, 53585

(City & Zip Code)

Natl Farmers Org.

(Representing)

Speaking In favor:

Speaking against:

Registering In favor:

Registering against:

Speaking for Information only:

Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger promptly.

Assembly Sergeant at Arms
Room 411 West
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702



WISCONSIN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

Howard D. Poulson
President

1212 Derrington Way
P.O. Box 5550
Madison, WI 53705-0550
(608) 836-5575

This distribution has been
authorized by

Signature

From: Paul Zimmerman

Memo

To: Members of the Assembly

Re: Assembly Bill 502

Date: November 5, 1997

POSITION

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation urges you to vote YES/GREEN on Assembly Bill 502, which updates Wisconsin's grain producer security law.

BACKGROUND

Under current law, a grain dealer that buys or sells at least \$2 million worth of grain from producers during a year must file an audited financial statement with DATCP. Whereas, grain dealers that buy or sell less than \$2 million worth of grain do not have to file an audited financial statement. This bill provides that a grain dealer who buys or sells at least \$2 million but less than \$3 million worth of grain in a year is only required to file an audited financial statement if that grain dealer bought or sold at least \$2 million worth of grain during the previous year. This provision helps address temporarily high grain prices for a one year period.

This bill would also allow Class B or Class B2 feedmills to sell grain to other grain dealers in an amount not to exceed 20% of the amount that they purchase from farmers. This provision helps producers (especially in northern Wisconsin) by allowing the local feedmill to develop a small cash market for excess grain.

Assembly Bill 502 makes minor changes to Wisconsin grain producer security that are beneficial to Wisconsin farmers and the grain industry. *Volunteers for Agriculture* may use AB 502 as a roll call vote. If you have any questions please contact me at 828-5708.

Thank you for considering our views.

Assembly Hearing Slip

(Please print plainly)

Date: 10-16-97
Bill No. AB 502
Or
Subject

(Name) LEE CRAIG

(Street Address or Route Number)

(City & Zip Code) 816 - 30

(Representing) WIS HERR-SERVICE AGS
CRAIG STRAIN

Speaking In favor:

Speaking against:

Registering In favor:

Registering against:

Speaking for Information only:
Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger promptly.

Assembly Sergeant at Arms
Room 411 West
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Assembly Hearing Slip

(Please print plainly)

Date: 10/16/97
Bill No. AB 502
Or
Subject

(Name) JIM CARROLL

(Street Address or Route Number) 600 GARDEN DRIVE

(City & Zip Code) MADISON, WI 53713

(Representing) WISCONSIN HERR-SERVICE AGS.

Speaking In favor:

Speaking against:

Registering In favor:

Registering against:

Speaking for Information only:
Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger promptly.

Assembly Sergeant at Arms
Room 411 West
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Assembly Hearing Slip

(Please print plainly)

Date: 10/16/97
Bill No. AB 502
Or
Subject

(Name) JOHN WORTON

(Street Address or Route Number)

(City & Zip Code) DATCP

(Representing)

Speaking In favor:

Speaking against:

Registering In favor:

Registering against:

Speaking for Information only:
Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger promptly.

Assembly Sergeant at Arms
Room 411 West
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702



October 16, 1997

To: Representative Al Ott,
Chairman, Assembly Agriculture Committee
&
Agriculture Committee Members

From: Lee Craigo
Craigo Grain Co., Monroe, WI

I am appearing before you today in support of AB 502, the amendments to Chapter 127. I am the President of Wisconsin Agri-Service Association. Wisconsin Agri-Service Association has over 550 members, the majority of which operate feed mills and grain elevators throughout Wisconsin.

My wife Karen and I own and operate Craigo Grain in Monroe, Wisconsin. Craigo Grain Company is a Class A Grain Dealer and a licensed Grain Warehouse. Craigo Grain Company was started over sixty years ago by my father and grandfather. Karen and I have two sons and we anticipate that, god willing, they may be able to carry on the tradition of Craigo Grain being a family owned and operated business.

Our facility has 750,000 bushel of storage capacity. We buy corn, oats, beans, and wheat from approximately 250 area farmers, which are mostly dairy producers with average sized farms of 200 to 400 acres. Our trade area is within a 30 mile radius of Monroe, with some of our customers located in Illinois. A large portion of the grains we purchase are returned back to the dairy and hog production units located in our immediate trade area.

We also operate a fleet of four trucks, which we use to pick-up and deliver these grains to these area producers.

In 1972 I had the honor to serve the Secretary of Agriculture as a member of the "Cash Grain Council". The Cash Grain Council was formed to draft the first Grain Dealer law for Wisconsin. It is very satisfying to me to see that this law, with some minor modifications, has withstood the test of time.

I am here today to urge you to support AB 502, the amendments to Chapter 127. These amendments will strengthen the grain law by making it more responsive to today's market conditions and by allowing the grain industry of Wisconsin to be able to grow. In many northern areas of the state, the feed mill is the only grain market. These amendments will provide and give those feed mills the opportunity to develop a grain market for their area farmer's surplus grains. These amendments will also allow the current law to address the issue of temporary and exceptionally high grain prices that occur which in turn requires an expensive change in the business practices for many dealers.

As a Class A Grain Dealer, I firmly believe that these amendments will only be to the betterment of Wisconsin's rural economy. As was the case when the "Cash Grain Council" met initially to develop a grain law, we realized that there would be need to amend the grain law to meet the changing needs of this **GROWING and DYNAMIC INDUSTRY in WISCONSIN!**

THANK YOU!



Date: October 16, 1997

To: Representative Al Ott,
Chairman of the Assembly Agriculture Committee
&
Members of the Agriculture Committee

From: Ray "Cardie" Schmitt
Chief Executive Officer, Wisconsin Agri-Service Association

The vast majority of the members of the Wisconsin Agri-Service Association (WASA) are feed mill and grain elevator operators throughout the state of Wisconsin. WASA members handle and /or process 98+% of all of the grain produced in Wisconsin. I am here today, on behalf of these members, to urge to support the passage of AB 502, the amendments to the Grain Dealer and Grain Warehouse law. WASA members have worked with the Grain Security Division of the Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection to develop these amendments to enable our current grain law to better serve the changing needs of this dynamic and growing industry in Wisconsin.

Five years ago one would have been hard pressed to find soybeans being grown as a cash crop in northern Keweenaw and southern Door Counties. Yet last week, when visited our members in that area, I was told that many farmers in that area will be harvesting a soybean crop that has yields of 45+ bushels per acre. Furthermore, the acreage devoted to cash crops, such as corn and soybeans, has been increasing very rapidly in that area over the last couple of years. This is very typical of what is happening throughout the northern tier of counties of our great state. Many feed mills in these sections are now being asked to purchase their feed customer's surplus grains. To do this, these feed mills which are licensed as Class B or B2 grain dealers, need to be able to resell these surplus grains to the terminal grain markets. But because only Class A grain dealers are allowed, under current law, to sell grain to other dealers, the local feed mill is prohibited from purchasing this surplus grain for resale unless he becomes a Class A dealer. To become a Class A dealer is cost prohibitive, given the small quantities of excess grain being offered to them by their feed customers, this in turn deprives many farmers a competitive market. Allowing these feed dealers the opportunity to develop a cash grain market by enabling them to sell 20% of the purchases which are governed under a Class B or B2 license, the economy in many rural communities will benefit greatly. AB 502 provides the stimulus for this to happen. It allows the local feed dealer to develop a viable and competitive market immediately, which in due course, will allow many of these feed mills to evolve into Class A grain dealers.

AB 502 also addresses the issue of when an audited financial statement is required. It takes into consideration the situations that occur when there are extreme swings in the prices of grain, such as last year, and/or the situations that arise when there is an abnormally large crop harvested in an area. Both of these situations can force the grain dealer that normally is not required to have an audited financial statement because his grain purchases are less than \$2,000,000.00 into having to have an audited financial statement, not only for the year in which it occurs, but also the following year, even though that year's purchases are less than \$2,000,000.00. This is extremely expensive for this size of dealer, perhaps 3 to 4 times the cost of his normal reviewed audit. We do not believe that there is that degree of increased risk to the producer that can warrant or justify the increased cost.

For the benefit of Wisconsin farmers and grain industry, I urge you to support the passage of AB 502.

Thank You.



Capitol Square Office
Two East Mifflin Street
Suite 600
Madison, WI 53703-2865
Fax 608-252-9243
Tel 608-255-8891

West Office
Firststar Financial Centre
8000 Excelsior Drive, Suite 401
Madison, WI 53717-1914
Fax 608-831-2106
Tel 608-831-2100

Please respond to: Capitol Square Office

October 22, 1997

Representative Scott Jensen
Speaker - State Assembly
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708

RE: Request for Scheduling in November
SB 502 — Principal Sponsors: Representative Tom Sykora and
Senator Kevin Shibilski

Dear Representative Jensen:

On behalf of the Wisconsin Agri-Service Association (which represents about 550 grain dealers and animal feed processors), I am requesting that the captioned legislation be scheduled for Assembly action during one of your November floor periods. This bill has been worked out in cooperation with the Department of Agriculture and is supported by all known agricultural groups.

The bill received a hearing before the Assembly Agriculture Committee on Thursday, October 16, 1997, and received an unanimous favorable vote by the Committee on that same date. We are eager to have the bill proceed through the legislative process and thereby request the bill be scheduled during the November session.

If you have any questions regarding this legislation, please don't hesitate to contact me. Thanks for your help.

Sincerely,

DEWITT ROSS & STEVENS s.c.

Ronald W. Kuehn

RWK:mb

cc: Ray Schmitt, Wisconsin Agri-Service Association
Representative Tom Sykora
Senator Kevin Shibilski
✓ Representative Al Ott



The Honorable Representative Al Ott
Wisconsin Assembly Committee on Agriculture
Rm. 318, N, Wisconsin State Capital
Madison, WI. 53708

Dear Al:

I am writing to you to urge you to support AB 502, the amendments to the Wisconsin Grain dealer law, and how it will effect my feed and grain business.

Henry Carstens and Sons has been in business since 1916 at 114 W. Water Street in Brillion, Wisconsin. We service 300 to 400 farms. This company is currently registered as a Class B grain dealer.

This bill, when passed will allow me to purchase grains from my customers in my trade area and to resell a portion of that grain on to the terminal grain markets or to other grain and feed dealers. Currently I can only purchase grains from my customers that I can use in the manufacturing of feed unless I register as a Class A dealer. To do this would cost me a considerable amount of additional money. Presently I can not justify this additional cost. Furthermore, because I can not purchase and resell my customer's surplus grains, it limits their opportunity to have a local competitive market.

By being able to sell a portion of my purchases of customer's grain to terminal grain markets or other grain or feed dealers, I believe that this will give me an opportunity to grow my grain business and eventually enable me to be able to afford to become a Class A grain dealer.

I urge you to support the passage of AB 502, it will definitely be a benefit to my customers!

Respectfully,

Henry E. Carstens
Henry Carstens & Sons Co.



FEED & SEED



FARM SUPPLIES



OCT 23 1997



Capitol Square Office
Two East Mifflin Street
Suite 600
Madison, WI 53703-2865
FAX 608-252-9243
TEL 608-255-8891

West Office
Firststar Financial Centre
8000 Excelsior Drive, Suite 401
Madison, WI 53717-1914
FAX 608-831-2106
TEL 608-831-2100

Please respond to: Capitol Square Office

October 22, 1997

Representative Alvin Ott
Chair, Assembly Agriculture Committee
P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708

RE: Grain Security Act — AB 502
(Representative Sykora and Senator Shibilski Principal Sponsors)

Dear Representative Ott:

On behalf of the Wisconsin Agri-Service Association, I wish to express my appreciation for the attention that you gave to the testimony that we presented in favor of the captioned legislation. We also appreciate your executive session vote in favor of the legislation and look forward to the bill being debated on the floor of the State Assembly in the November session.

Should any questions arise between now and the floor debate, please don't hesitate to contact me. We would be pleased to provide you with answers to any questions you may have regarding this legislation. Again, thanks for your help on this matter.

Sincerely,

DEWITT ROSS & STEVENS s.c.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Kuehn".

Ronald W. Kuehn

RWK:mb

cc: Ray Schmitt, Wisconsin Agri-Service Association
Representative Tom Sykora
Senator Kevin Shibilski

Vote Record

Assembly Committee on Agriculture

Date: 10/16/97
 Moved by: SyKora Seconded by: Hahn
 AB: 502 Clearinghouse Rule: _____
 AB: _____ SB: _____ Appointment: _____
 AJR: _____ SJR: _____ Other: _____
 A: _____ SR: _____

A/S Amdt: _____
 A/S Amdt: _____ to A/S Amdt: _____
 A/S Sub Amdt: _____
 A/S Amdt: _____ to A/S Sub Amdt: _____
 A/S Amdt: _____ to A/S Amdt: _____ to A/S Sub Amdt: _____

Be recommended for:

- Passage
- Introduction
- Adoption
- Rejection

- Indefinite Postponement
- Tabling
- Concurrence
- Nonconcurrence
- Confirmation

Committee Member

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Not Voting</u>
Rep. Alvin Ott, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Tom Sykora	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. John Ainsworth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Eugene Hahn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Clifford Otte	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. David Ward	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Robert Zukowski	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Rick Skindrud	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Barbara Gronemus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Marty Reynolds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Tom Springer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Robert Dueholm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. John Steinbrink	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Joe Plouff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Totals: 12 0 2 _____

Motion Carried

Motion Failed



October 16, 1997

To: Representative Al Ott,
Chairman, Assembly Agriculture Committee
&
Agriculture Committee Members

From: Lee Craigo
Craigo Grain Co., Monroe, WI

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THANK YOU!



Date: October 16, 1997

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Chairman of the Assembly Agriculture Committee
&
Members of the Agriculture Committee

From: Ray "Cardie" Schmitt
Chief Executive Officer, Wisconsin Agri-Service Association

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For the benefit of Wisconsin farmers and grain industry, I urge you to support the passage of AB 502.

Thank You.



TOM SYKORA

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

September 16, 1997

TO: Representative Al Ott, Chairman, Assembly Committee on Agriculture

FR: Representative Tom Sykora, Vice-Chairman, Assembly Committee on Agriculture *TS*

RE: Scheduling AB-502

On September 2, I introduced Assembly Bill 502 relating to the regulation of grain dealers and grain warehouse keepers.

I am respectfully asking that AB-502 be given a public hearing and executive session as soon as possible before the committee.

I know of no opposition to this bill. The Senate co-author is Sen. Shibilski. Mr. Ron Kuehn from DeWitt, Ross & Stevens played a major role in drafting this bill with Becky Tradewell of the LDB.

If you need any additional information please don't hesitate to contact me. I appreciate your consideration of my request and look forward to hearing from you.