

1999 ASSEMBLY BILL 457

September 14, 1999 – Introduced by Representatives BLACK, BOCK, MILLER, LA FAVE, J. LEHMAN, BALOW, POCAN and BERCEAU, cosponsored by Senators DECKER, BURKE and BAUMGART. Referred to Committee on Environment.

1 **AN ACT** *to repeal* 293.15 (9); and *to create* 293.17 of the statutes; **relating to:**
2 exemptions from rules regulating mining and regulating the storage and
3 disposal of mining waste.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the department of natural resources (DNR) regulates prospecting for and mining of metallic minerals. DNR promulgates rules to regulate prospecting and mining, including rules to ensure that prospecting and mining are conducted in a way that protects the environment and rules requiring the reclamation of prospecting and mining sites. DNR also promulgates rules regulating the storage and disposal of solid waste. Current law authorizes DNR to promulgate rules under which DNR may grant exemptions from the rules regulating prospecting and mining and from the rules regulating the storage and disposal of solid waste as they relate to solid waste that is mining waste, as long as the exemptions do not result in the violation of a state or federal environmental law or endanger public health, safety or welfare or the environment.

This bill prohibits DNR from granting exemptions from its rules regulating prospecting and mining. The bill also prohibits DNR from granting exemptions from its rules regulating the storage and disposal of solid waste as they relate to solid waste that is mining waste.

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

