

**1999 DRAFTING REQUEST**

**Assembly Amendment (AA-AB133)**

Received: **05/26/99**

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Wanted: **As time permits**

Identical to LRB:

For: **Legislative Fiscal Bureau 266-3847**

By/Representing: **Kava**

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**Topic:**

DNR support for costs relating to department of tourism operations

**Instructions:**

See Attached

**Drafting History:**

<u>Vers.</u>	<u>Drafted</u>	<u>Reviewed</u>	<u>Typed</u>	<u>Proofed</u>	<u>Submitted</u>	<u>Jacketed</u>	<u>Required</u>
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## Legislative Fiscal Bureau

One East Main, Suite 301 • Madison, WI 53703 • (608) 266-3847 • Fax: (608) 267-6873

May 26, 1999

Joint Committee on Finance

Paper #658

### Tourism Support (DNR -- Departmentwide)

[LFB 1999-01 Budget Summary: Page 415, #14]

#### CURRENT LAW

The Secretaries of the Departments of Natural Resources and Tourism entered into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in June, 1998, under which DNR agreed to pay Tourism \$4,200 in 1997-98 and \$25,000 annually every fiscal year thereafter for funding for staff, equipment, advertising, promotion, public relations and related support costs at the Chicago Travel Information Center

#### GOVERNOR

Provide \$25,000 annually from the conservation fund, split-funded between eight accounts, to allow DNR to make payments to Tourism under the MOU.

#### DISCUSSION POINTS

1. Tourism originally requested that DNR provide funding as recognition of the workload of travel information center staff in responding to questions about hunting, fishing and recreational vehicles and for credit card processing costs for licenses sold at the Center. Given the nature of many of the inquiries received by Tourism about outdoor-related recreation in Wisconsin, it could be judged appropriate to provide some level of conservation fund SEG for such purposes.
2. In the 1997-99 biennial budget, the Governor proposed providing \$25,500 SEG from the forestry account of the conservation fund for wage increases for limited-term employees in Tourism's travel information centers. Instead of using conservation fund SEG for the payments, the Committee proposed, and the Legislature adopted, providing \$25,500 GPR for the LTE wage increases. Consistent with legislative action in the last budget, \$25,000 GPR could instead be provided to Tourism in lieu of the MOU with DNR.

3. However, DNR staff indicate that base funding has been reallocated to make prior payments to Tourism under the MOU. The Committee could instead choose to continue this arrangement. Base funding of \$9.2 million annually from all fund sources would be available to the Bureau of Customer Service and Licensing in DNR for these payments. Any base funding provided, however, would continue to come at the expense of other licensing, registration and customer service functions of DNR.

4. Tourism staff indicate that no other state agency makes payments to Tourism for operations of the Department's travel information centers. Further, the 1995-97 budget transferred 19.5 positions (18.5 GPR and 1.0 SEG) and associated funding of over \$1 million to the newly-created Department of Tourism in 1996. Of the 19.5 positions, 3.0 (15%) were identified for parks-related promotion and activities. The overall staff transferred from DNR represents 31% of Tourism's current 62.25 base positions. It could be argued that base level resources in Tourism adequately recognize the agency's effort to support natural resource-based recreation and tourism.

5. Thus, the Committee could choose to prohibit DNR from making any payments from any of its appropriations for Tourism operations. This would have the effect of voiding the MOU, but maintaining direct appropriations from the conservation fund to Tourism for administrative services and operation of the Kickapoo Reserve Management Board.

**ALTERNATIVES**

1. Approve the Governor's recommendation to provide \$25,000 annually from the conservation fund, split-funded between eight accounts, to allow DNR to make payments to Tourism under the MOU.

2. Provide \$25,000 GPR annually to Tourism in lieu of the MOU with DNR.

<u>Alternative 2</u>	<u>GPR</u>	<u>SEG</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1999-01 FUNDING (Change to Bill)	\$50,000	- \$50,000	\$0

3. *Dept. of*  
 In addition to or in lieu of Alternative 2, prohibit DNR from making any payments from its appropriations under s. 20.370 for Tourism operations.

4. Maintain current law. (DNR could continue to reallocate base funding to make payments to Tourism under the MOU.)

<u>Alternative 4</u>	<u>SEG</u>
1999-01 FUNDING (Change to Bill)	- \$50,000

Prepared by: Russ Kava



1007m  
**State of Wisconsin**  
**1999 - 2000 LEGISLATURE**

LRBb0427/1

RNK.....  
*cmj*

LFB:.....Kava - DNR support for costs relating to department of tourism operations

FOR 1999-01 BUDGET — NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

**LFB AMENDMENT**

**TO 1999 ASSEMBLY BILL 133 AND 1999 SENATE BILL 45**

1 At the locations indicated, amend the bill as follows:

2 1. Page 492, line 11: after that line insert:

3 "SECTION 684m. 23.47 of the statutes is created to read:

4 **23.47 Payments for department of tourism programs and activities.**

5 The department of natural resources may not expend any moneys appropriated to  
6 the department of natural resources under s. 20.370 to pay, in whole or in part, for  
7 a program operated, or an activity conducted, by the department of tourism for which  
8 moneys are appropriated to the department of tourism under s. 20.380."

*in whole  
or in  
part,*

9 (END)



State of Wisconsin  
1999 - 2000 LEGISLATURE

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8 or in part, for which moneys are appropriated to the department of tourism under

9 s. 20.389."

10

(END)



State of Wisconsin  
1999 - 2000 LEGISLATURE

LRBb0427/2  
RNK:cmh:mrc

LFB:.....Kava - DNR support for costs relating to department of tourism operations

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