

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
**Senate Journal**  
Ninety–Fourth Regular Session

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WEDNESDAY, August 16, 2000

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The Chief Clerk makes the following entries under the above date.

**PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**State of Wisconsin  
Ethics Board**

August 15, 2000

The Honorable, The Senate:

The following lobbyists have been authorized to act on behalf of the organizations set opposite their names.

For more detailed information about these lobbyists and organizations and a complete list of organizations and people authorized to lobby the 1999 session of the legislature, visit the Ethics Board's web site at <http://ethics.state.wi.us>

Beebe, Thomas                    **Institute for Wisconsin's Future**

Boxer, Barbara K                **City of Waukesha**

Haber, Darcy                    **Wisconsin Citizen Action**

Mulligan–Hansel, Kathleen   **Institute for Wisconsin's Future**

Munyon, Marvin                 **Family Research Institute of Wisconsin, Inc**

Rude, Brian                    **Dairyland Power Cooperative**

Also available from the Wisconsin Ethics Board are reports identifying the amount and value of time state agencies have spent to affect legislative action and reports of expenditures for lobbying activities filed by the organizations that employ lobbyists.

Sincerely,

ROTH JUDD  
Director

**State of Wisconsin  
Legislative Audit Bureau**

August 9, 2000

The Honorable, The Legislature:

We have completed a best practices review of local government operations, as directed by s. 13.94(8), Wis. Stats. Efforts to reduce truancy in Wisconsin public schools are the topic of this review.

On average, approximately 15,600 students are truant from school on any given day, and nearly one-third of absences in the 1998-99 academic year were caused by truancy. To address the problem of truancy, state statutes were significantly modified in 1997 Wisconsin Act 239, which expanded the definition of habitual truancy, and provided municipal governments with additional options for addressing both simple and habitual truancy. Many of the local governments with which we spoke have moved to strengthen their truancy ordinances as a result,

and most local government officials, school administrators, and law enforcement officials believe the changes assist municipalities in addressing truant behavior.

We found, however, that the statutory changes intended to reduce truancy have not yet resulted in lowered truancy rates. The proportion of students classified as habitual truant increased significantly during 1998-99, the first year for which the expanded definition of habitual truancy applied: 74,569 students, or 8.7 percent of the total enrollment in Wisconsin public schools, were classified as habitual truant in that year. In the previous year, 59,304 public school students, or 6.9 percent of the total enrollment, had been classified as habitual truant. It is important to note that changes to truancy laws occurred relatively recently, and improvement in truancy rates may occur in the future as municipalities take advantage of the increased number of options provided by the changes.

School, municipal courts, law enforcement agencies, and community organizations play a role in addressing truant behavior. Our review describes several best practices used by these organizations.

We appreciate the courtesy and cooperation extended to us by the Department of Public Instruction, local government officials, school administrators, truancy abatement center staff, and law enforcement agencies.

Sincerely,

JANICE MUELLER  
State Auditor

**State of Wisconsin  
Department of Employment Relations**

August 2000

The Honorable, The Legislature:

Pursuant to s. 230.04 (9)(em), Stats., I am pleased to submit the Veterans Employment Report for 1999. The report summarizes veteran new hires and on-board statistics for the time period and includes information for each state agency and each institution of the UW System.

Veterans comprise an important segment of the Wisconsin workforce in both the private and public sectors. State government – and any other employer – can benefit greatly by recruiting and retaining our nation's trained and motivated veterans.

Sincerely,

PETER D. FOX  
Secretary

**State of Wisconsin  
Department of Health and Family Services**

August 7, 2000

The Honorable, The Senate:

Section 46.972(4), Wis. Stats., requires the Department of Health and Family Services to submit to the chief clerk of each house of the Legislature a report on June 30 annually on the allocation and expenditure of funds for services for homeless individuals. Attached is the Department's annual report.

Department staff is available if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

JOE LEEAN  
Secretary

**State of Wisconsin  
Department of Administration**

July 31, 2000

The Honorable, The Legislature:

This report is transmitted as required by sec. 20.002(11)(f) of the Wisconsin Statutes, (for distribution to the appropriate standing committees under sec. 13.172(3) Stats.), and confirms that the Department of Administration has found it necessary to exercise the "temporary reallocation of balances" authority provided by this section in order to meet payment responsibilities and cover resulting negative balances during the month of June 2000.

On June 1, 2000 the **Wisconsin Health Education Loan Repayment Fund** balance was -\$8 thousand. This shortfall increased to -\$10 thousand on June 13, 2000, to -\$11 thousand on June 27, 2000, and continued until July 25, 2000 when the balance reached \$9 thousand. This shortfall was due to the timing of revenues.

On June 1, 2000 the **Wisconsin Lottery Fund** balance was -\$7.71 million. This shortfall decreased to -\$3.82 million on June 8, 2000, to -\$1.98 million on June 15, 2000, and continued until June 16, 2000 when the balance reached \$1.36 million. This shortfall was due to a timing difference between the distribution of property tax credits and the receipt of Lottery revenues.

On June 1, 2000 the **University Trust - Income Fund** balance was -\$183 thousand. This shortfall increased to -\$204 thousand on June 5, 2000, to -\$359 thousand on June 7, 2000, and continued until June 8, 2000 when the balance reached \$581 thousand. This shortfall was due to the timing of revenues.

The Wisconsin Health Education Loan Repayment Fund, Wisconsin Lottery Fund, and University Trust - Income Fund shortfalls were not in excess of the statutory interfund borrowing limitation and did not exceed the balances of the Funds available for interfund borrowing.

The distribution of interest earnings to investment pool participants is based on the average daily balance in the pool and each fund's share. Therefore, the monthly calculation by the State Controller's Office will automatically reflect the use of these temporary reallocations of balance authority.

Sincerely,

GEORGE LIGHTBOURN  
Secretary

Referred to the joint committee on **Finance**.

**EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS**

**THE STATE OF WISCONSIN  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER #404**

*Relating to the Establishment of the Office of State Poet Laureate and the*

*Governor's Poet Laureate Nomination Commission*

**WHEREAS**, the State of Wisconsin is a recognized leader in culture and arts; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important that Wisconsin maintain its strong tradition of excellence in the arts; and

**WHEREAS**, poetry serves as a tool for the enrichment of all people and serves as a herald for the deep emotions and pride felt by the citizens of this great state; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to have an individual who promotes and develops an interest in poetry;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, TOMMY G. THOMPSON**, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of this State, and specifically by Section 14.019 of the Wisconsin Statutes, do hereby:

1. Create the Governor's Poet Laureate Nomination Commission (hereinafter, "Commission"); and
2. Provide that the Commission shall be composed of seven (7) members appointed by the Governor to serve a term of four (4) years; and
3. Provide that the Governor shall designate one (1) member on the Commission as its chair to serve in that capacity at the pleasure of the Governor; and
4. Provide that the following organizations shall each recommend to the Governor one (1) individual for membership on the Commission:
  - a. The Council for Wisconsin Writers; and
  - b. The Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets; and
  - c. The Wisconsin Regional Writers Association, Inc.; and
  - d. The Wisconsin Humanities Council; and
  - e. The Wisconsin Arts Board; and
5. Provide that the Poet Laureate shall be appointed by the Governor to serve a four (4) year term; and
6. Provide that the Poet Laureate shall have the following purpose and mission:
  - a. Contribute to the growth of poetry in the State by organizing and leading one project of the Poet Laureate's choosing, subject to review by the Commission; and
  - b. Plan and attend at least four (4) statewide literary events per year; and
  - c. Perform in at least four (4) government, state and civil events as requested by the Governor's Office, school systems, and/or literary organizations; and
7. Provide that the Commission shall have the following purpose and mission:
  - a. Recommend three (3) candidates for Poet Laureate to the Governor; and
  - b. Assign responsibilities to the Poet Laureate; and
  - c. Assist the Poet Laureate in performing official duties; and

8. Provide that the Commission shall nominate a Poet Laureate based on the following:

- a. That the Poet Laureate be 18 years of age or older; and
- b. That the Poet Laureate have demonstrated excellence in promoting awareness and enjoyment of poetry in Wisconsin; and
- c. That the Poet Laureate have an admirable and proven history of having published individual poems and/or books; and
- d. That the Poet Laureate be a resident of Wisconsin for at least one year prior to the nomination deadline; and

9. Direct the Secretary of the Department of Administration to provide the Commission and Poet Laureate with administrative and support services and with such sums of money that are necessary for travel and operating expenses in accordance with section 20.505(3)(a) of the Wisconsin Statutes; and

10. Direct the Commission to make an annual report to the Governor on the activities of the Poet Laureate.

**IN TESTIMONY WHERE OF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the city of Madison this Thirty-first day of July in the year two thousand..

TOMMY G. THOMPSON  
Governor

*BY THE GOVERNOR:*

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE  
Secretary of State

**State of Wisconsin  
Office of the Governor**

August 2, 2000

The Honorable, The Senate:

This is to inform you that I am withdrawing the nomination of Dr. Gary Bryant for appointment to the Private Health Care Coverage Board.

Dr. Bryant has notified my office that due to personal reasons he cannot accept the nomination at this time.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

TOMMY G. THOMPSON  
Governor

**State of Wisconsin  
Office of the Governor**

July 26, 2000

The Honorable, The Senate:

I am pleased to nominate and with the advice and consent of the Senate, do appoint SCHLEIS, CATHERINE E., of De Forest, as a member of the Dentistry Examining Board, to serve for the term ending July 1, 2004.

Sincerely,

TOMMY G. THOMPSON  
Governor

Read and referred to committee on **Health, Utilities, Veterans and Military Affairs.**

**State of Wisconsin  
Office of the Governor**

July 26, 2000

The Honorable, The Senate:

I am pleased to nominate and with the advice and consent of the Senate, do appoint JENKINS, LAURA M., of Darlington, as a member of the Barbering and Cosmetology Examining Board, to serve for the term ending July 1, 2004.

Sincerely,

TOMMY G. THOMPSON  
Governor

Read and referred to committee on **Health, Utilities, Veterans and Military Affairs.**

**State of Wisconsin  
Office of the Governor**

July 26, 2000

The Honorable, The Senate:

I am pleased to nominate and with the advice and consent of the Senate, do appoint TENUTA, RALPH J., of Kenosha, as a member of the Banking Review Board, to serve for the term ending May 1, 2005.

Sincerely,

TOMMY G. THOMPSON  
Governor

Read and referred to committee on **Privacy, Electronic Commerce and Financial Institutions.**

**REFERRALS AND RECEIPT OF  
COMMITTEE REPORTS CONCERNING  
PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

The committee on **Economic Development, Housing and Government Operations** reports and recommends:

**Senate Clearinghouse Rule 00-018**

Relating to holding classes outside of the classroom.

No action taken.

**Senate Clearinghouse Rule 00-019**

Relating to theory hours conducted by the school outside of the classroom.

No action taken.

**Senate Clearinghouse Rule 99-122**

Relating to the design and construction of public swimming pools.

No action taken.

**Senate Clearinghouse Rule 99-123**

Relating to the state uniform plumbing code.

No action taken.

Robert Wirch  
Chairperson

The committee on **Education** reports and recommends:

**Senate Clearinghouse Rule 98-138**

Relating to eligibility criteria for children with disabilities.

No action taken.

Richard Grobschmidt  
Chairperson

The committee on **Judiciary and Consumer Affairs** reports and recommends:

**Senate Clearinghouse Rule 98–130**

Relating to child support administrative enforcement.

No action taken.

**Senate Clearinghouse Rule 99–093**

Relating to the certification of instructors for law enforcement training.

No action taken.

**Senate Clearinghouse Rule 99–153**

Relating to the review of complaints alleging violations of the rights of crime victims.

No action taken.

Gary George  
Chairperson

The committee on **Labor** reports and recommends:

**Senate Clearinghouse Rule 99–163**

Relating to a limited waiver of the work search requirement, ability to work and availability for work and various minor changes relating to unemployment insurance.

No action taken.

Jim Baumgart  
Chairperson