

STATE OF WISCONSIN
Senate Journal
Ninety–Fourth Regular Session

WEDNESDAY, November 8, 2000

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

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

**State of Wisconsin
Ethics Board**

November 7, 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>

Kies, Kenyon **Wisconsin Public Service
Corporation**

McCoshen, William J **Wisconsin Public Service
Corporation**

Rochester, Carol **Wisconsin State Telecommunications
Association**

Samadani, Ayaz **State Medical Society of Wisconsin**

Stevens, Patrick **Wisconsin Transportation Builders
Association**

Windschiegl, Marilyn **State Medical Society of Wisconsin**

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**

November 3, 2000

The Honorable, The Senate:

We have completed a financial audit of the Local Government Property Insurance Fund, which provides property insurance to counties, towns, villages, school districts, and other local units of government and is administered by the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance. As of June 30, 2000, the Property Fund insured 1,113 local units of government with an insured property value of approximately \$25.1 billion.

As necessary parts of the financial audit, we reviewed the Property Fund's control procedures, assessed the fair presentation of its financial statements for fiscal years

1999-2000, 1998-99, and 1997-98, and reviewed compliance with statutory provisions. We were able to provide an unqualified auditor's report on the Property Fund's financial statements, and we found no instances of material weaknesses in the internal control structure or instances of noncompliance with state statutes.

The Property Fund earned net income totaling \$4.3 million for the three-year period ended June 30, 2000, and as of that date had a surplus of \$23.4 million. The Property Fund's surplus, which has been an issue discussed in prior audit reports, is still being maintained at a level above the industry standard. The Office of the Commissioner of Insurance monitors the surplus level and believes it is currently appropriate considering recent loss experience. The Property Fund had several large fire and windstorm claims during the last three years, but reinsurance limited the effect of these losses on the Fund. If the Fund's loss experience results in increased reinsurance premiums and coverage levels in the future, its fund surplus can help limit the effect of future reinsurance increases on policyholder premiums and help ensure a financially stable program.

Copies of the audit report have been distributed to members of the Joint Legislative Audit Committee and those required by law to receive them. If you are interested in receiving a copy of this report, please contact our office and request report number 00-12. The report is also available online at www.legis.state.wi.us/lab/windex.htm.

Sincerely,

JANICE MUELLER
State Auditor

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS

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

EXECUTIVE ORDER #411

***Relating to the Governor's Advisory Task on the Proposed
Federal Roadless Initiative***

WHEREAS, Wisconsin has some of the finest and most beautiful forests in the Nation; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin is a leader in maintaining a sensible balance between the economic development of northern Wisconsin and the preservation of its forests; and

WHEREAS, the Federal government, through the U.S. Forest Service, is considering the promulgation of a rule, known as the "Roadless Initiative" that would prevent development of roads in heavily forested areas; and

WHEREAS, there is significant concern among the citizens of Northern Wisconsin that the proposed federal Roadless Initiative could have a major negative impact on the economy of Northern Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, it is important that the citizens of Wisconsin have a formal mechanism through which to gauge public opinion and advise policy makers on the proposed Roadless Initiative;

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 Advisory Task Force on the Proposed Federal Roadless Initiative (hereinafter referred to as the "Task Force"); and
2. Provide that the Task Force shall consist of five (5) members, appointed by the Governor to serve at the pleasure of the Governor; and
3. Provide that the Governor shall designate one (1) member of the Task Force as chair to serve in that capacity at the pleasure of the Governor; and
4. Provide that the Task Force shall have the following mission:
 - a. Study the impact of the proposed Roadless Initiative on Northern Wisconsin; and
 - b. Solicit comment from citizens of Northern Wisconsin regarding the Roadless Initiative; and
 - c. Report to the Governor on the federal Roadless Initiative and make recommendations to the Governor on potential state action; and
5. Direct the Department of Administration to provide the Task Force with such sums of money as are necessary

for travel and operating expenses in accordance with section 20.505(3)(a) of the Wisconsin Statutes; and

6. Provide that the Task Force shall dissolve on December 31, 2001 or when the U.S. Forest Service promulgates the proposed Roadless Initiative, whichever is later.

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 thirtieth day of October in the year two thousand.

TOMMY G. THOMPSON
Governor

BY THE GOVERNOR:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State

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

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

Senate Clearinghouse Rule 00-116

Relating to election procedures for the employe trust funds board.

No action taken.

Jim Baumgart
Chairperson