

WISCONSIN STATE  
LEGISLATURE  
COMMITTEE HEARING  
RECORDS

1999-00

(session year)

Assembly

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on  
Campaigns &  
Elections  
(AC-CE)

File Naming Example:

Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

- > 05hr\_AC-Ed\_RCP\_pt01a
- > 05hr\_AC-Ed\_RCP\_pt01b
- > 05hr\_AC-Ed\_RCP\_pt02

*Published Documents*

> Committee Hearings ... CH (Public Hearing Announcements)

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> Committee Reports ... CR

> \*\*

> Executive Sessions ... ES

> \*\*

> Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

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*Information Collected For Or  
Against Proposal*

> Appointments ... Appt

> \*\*

> Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule

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> Hearing Records ... HR (bills and resolutions)

> **99hr\_ab0410\_AC-CE\_pt01**

> Miscellaneous ... Misc

> \*\*

# Vote Record

## Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections

Date: 9/1/99  
Moved by: HIO Walker Seconded by: Suder  
AB: \_\_\_\_\_ 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

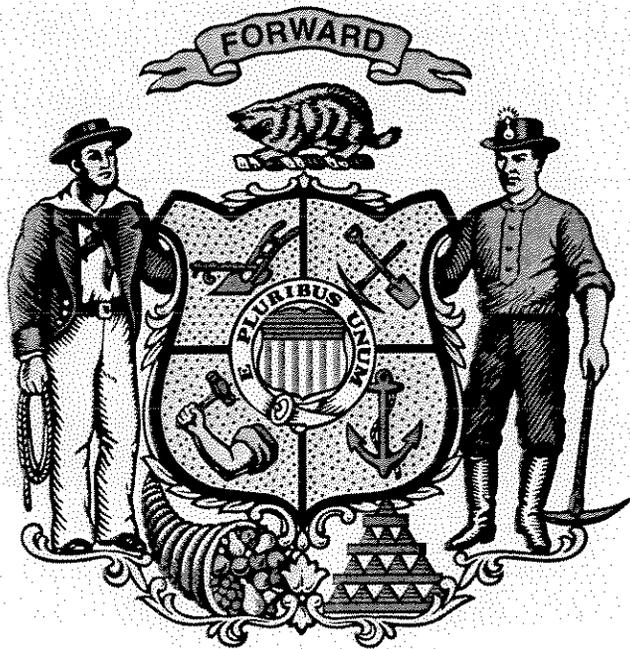
Rep. Stephen Freese, Chair  
Rep. Scott Suder  
Rep. Scott Walker  
Rep. Phil Montgomery  
Rep. Bonnie Ladwig  
Rep. David Travis  
Rep. David Cullen  
Rep. Mark Miller  
Rep. Gary Sherman

	Aye	No	Absent	Not Voting
Rep. Stephen Freese, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Scott Suder	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Scott Walker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Phil Montgomery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Bonnie Ladwig	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. David Travis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. David Cullen	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Mark Miller	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Gary Sherman	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

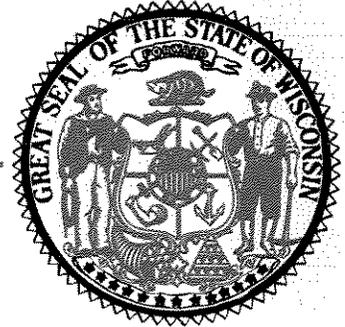
Totals: 5 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Motion Carried

Motion Failed



**FRED A. RISSER**  
President  
Wisconsin State Senate



To: Representative <sup>Steve</sup> ~~Steve~~ Freese, Chair  
Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections

From: Senate President Fred Risser

Date: September 1, 1999

RE: Assembly Bill 410 and Assembly Bill 413

RECEIVED

AUG 31 1999

Stephen J. Freese, Assembly Speaker  
Pro Tempore

Thank you for holding a hearing on Assembly Bill 410 and Assembly Bill 413. I apologize for being unable to attend the public hearing in person.

As a Senate co-sponsor of Assembly Bill 410, I would like to share my support for this legislation.

Assembly Bill 410 relates to accepting political contributions by owners and operators of casinos. This bill is a crucial step toward curbing the influence of gambling interests in our state. The primary goal of Assembly Bill 410 is to send the message that gambling interests cannot buy softer regulations in the State of Wisconsin.

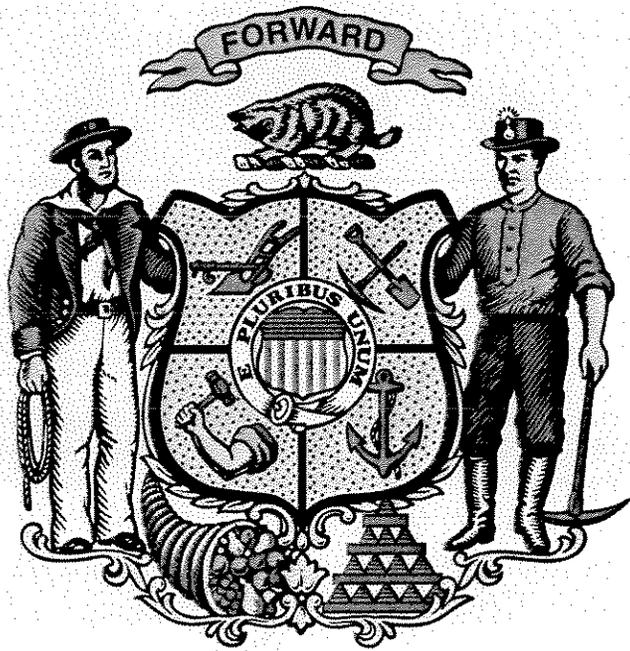
It is clear that gambling is expanding at a rapid rate in Wisconsin. Assembly Bill 410 should be a very clear statement that money cannot buy influence in our state.

Additionally, I would like to share my whole-hearted support for Assembly Bill 413.

Assembly Bill 413, of which I am a Senate co-sponsor, relates to allowing the creation of local election boards by counties, cities, and towns. This legislation will permit local governments to pass tougher campaign finance laws in several areas, including stricter limits on campaign contributions for individuals, committees and conduits. It will create a level of accountability in local government races.

In a time of skyrocketing campaign contributions and costs, it is important that races at all levels of government be regulated. Assembly Bill 413 is an important move toward allowing local oversight of campaigns.

Thank you for your consideration of Assembly Bill 410 and Assembly Bill 413. If you should have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.





# Representative Scott Walker

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## ***Ban on accepting contributions from gambling interests Testimony to Campaigns and Elections Committee – September 1, 1999***

How many of you remember the details of the proposed casino in Hudson, Wisconsin? Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt is still under investigation today for his role in dealing with the proposed casino in the northwestern part of our state. In response to this investigation, I introduced legislation last session to address the concerns raised by the high stakes world of gambling.

This session, we are pleased to have Senate President Fred Risser join us as the primary author in the State Senate. Our legislation is based on a state law in New Jersey that has been in place since 1977 and has been upheld in state court. The purpose of the law is to prevent political corruption in an industry that has a poor track record elsewhere in the country. Similar legislation is pending in the Illinois State Legislature that will prohibit candidates and political committees from accepting contributions from interests in riverboat gambling or horse racing.

Interestingly, the National Gambling Impact Study Commission presented President Clinton with its report on June 18 and included a recommendation that states adopt tight restrictions on political contributions made by gambling interests.

The commission's recommendation says: "There are sound reasons to recommend that the states adopt tight restrictions on contributions to state and local campaigns by entities - corporate, private or tribal - that have applied for or have been granted the privilege of operating gambling facilities."

Gambling interests played a substantial role in gubernatorial wins in Alabama and South Carolina last year. The National Institute on Money in State Politics says that in 10 states it has studied so far, gambling interests gave more than \$1.5 million in the 1997-98 election cycle. The Center for Responsive Politics reported the gambling industry donated more than \$6.2 million to federal candidates and parties in the 1997-98 election cycle, twice what it gave during the previous midterm elections.

According to the Wisconsin Gaming Board, **\$7.1 billion** was wagered at the 17 tribal casinos in the fiscal year that ended June 30, 1996. The board has not tabulated the amount spent in 1997, and the tribes' new gaming compacts prohibit the state from divulging newer statistics. Meanwhile, gambling interests distributed \$61,900 in 1996 and \$25,370 in 1997 to individual candidates, campaign committees and political party committees.

Finally, I note that a budget provision approved by the conference committee will give the Legislature authority over new gambling compacts and off-reservation casinos. We have witnessed problems with gambling contributions at the federal level and in other states. Now, through the budget process, we are giving the members of the Legislature expanded authority over gambling in this state.

As we have witnessed throughout the state, gambling interests want to expand into new locations all over Wisconsin. We must act now before problems evolve in this state. Our measure will act as a protection against corruption here in Wisconsin.