

Assembly Hearing Slip

(Please print plainly)

Date: 9/15/99

Bill No. SB 108
Or
Subject

(Name) Ken Wachter

(Street Address or Route Number)

(City & Zip Code) Sen. Brian Rude
(Representing)

Speaking *in favor*:

Speaking *against*:

Registering *in favor*:

Registering *against*:

Speaking for *information only*:
Neither for nor *against*:

Please return this slip to a messenger promptly.

Assembly Sergeant at Arms
Room 411 West
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Assembly Hearing Slip

(Please print plainly)

Date: 9/15/99

Bill No. SB 108
Or
Subject

(Name) Julie Swiderski

(Street Address or Route Number) Senator Brian Burke's office

(City & Zip Code)

(Representing)

Speaking *in favor*:

Speaking *against*:

Registering *in favor*:

Registering *against*:

Speaking for *information only*:
Neither for nor *against*:

Please return this slip to a messenger promptly.

Assembly Sergeant at Arms
Room 411 West
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Assembly Hearing Slip

(Please print plainly)

Date: 9-15-99

Bill No. SB 108
Or
Subject

(Name) Rep. Steve French

(Street Address or Route Number)

(City & Zip Code)

(Representing)

Speaking *in favor*:

Speaking *against*:

Registering *in favor*:

Registering *against*:

Speaking for *information only*:
Neither for nor *against*:

Please return this slip to a messenger promptly.

Assembly Sergeant at Arms
Room 411 West
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702



WISCONSIN STATE SENATE
P. O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882

September 15, 1999

Rep. Jeff Stone, Chair
Assembly Committee on Highway Safety
306 North
State Capitol

Dear Jeff:

Thank you for scheduling and holding a public hearing on Senate Bill 108 relating to authority to modify speed limits within historic districts. We appreciate your timely assistance with this matter.

We are writing to request that you consider holding an executive session on this bill in the near future. The legislation passed the Senate on a voice vote and has received bipartisan support to date. It was drafted with the assistance and cooperation of the Department of Transportation, and we feel it will provide local units of government with another tool to enhance and protect historic districts in their communities.

Please feel free to call either of us if you have any questions or concerns with this request.

Best regards,

BRIAN BURKE
State Senator

BRIAN RUDE
State Senator

BB:BR/mil



Wisconsin Speaker Pro Tempore
Representative Stephen J. Freese

September 15, 1999

Members of the Committee on Highway Safety
North Hearing Room
State Capitol

Dear Members:

It is with regret that I am unable to testify before you today on Senate Bill 108, relating to the authority to modify speed limits within historic districts, but I must attend the funeral service of a very close friend.

It is my understanding that a representative from Senator Burke's office and Senator Rude's office will be testifying before you today in favor of the bill. I fully support the testimony they will present today.

I believe it is vital that we recognize the importance of preserving and protecting the historic value that many of our communities and local areas provide, and this legislation is a right step in that direction.

I would greatly appreciate your support of Senate Bill 108.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Stephen J. Freese".

Stephen J. Freese
State Representative

SJF:rlr

Fifty-First Assembly District

Office: Post Office Box 8952 • Madison, Wisconsin 53708-8952 • (608) 266-7502 • Fax: (608) 261-9474 • Rep.Freese@legis.state.wi.us
District: 1121 Professional Drive • Dodgeville, Wisconsin 53533 • (608) 935-3789

Printed on recycled paper with soy-based ink.



Wisconsin Senate Assistant Republican Leader

Senator Brian D. Rude

MEMO TO: ASSEMBLY HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS
REP. JEFF STONE – CHAIR

FROM: SENATOR BRIAN RUDE

DATE: SEPTEMBER 15, 1999

RE: SENATE BILL 108

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today in support of Senate Bill 108.

This legislation was developed by members of the Public Policy Committee of the Wisconsin Trust for Historic Preservation. The committee is co-chaired by Senator Burke and Senator Rude, and is comprised of historic preservationists, archeologists, staff from the State Historical Society and other interested individuals. Rep. Steve Freese and Rep. Dan Schoof are the Assembly representatives on the Public Policy Committee.

This legislation proposes allowing the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and local highway authorities to reduce speed limits within a designated historic district if an engineering and traffic investigation determines the current speed limit is too fast. Concerns have been raised regarding the damage caused by vehicles traveling too fast in historic districts, as well as the fact a lower speed limit would allow motorists time to appreciate the historic characteristics of properties located within historic districts.

I should point out that this is **not a mandate** and local authorities have the option of pursuing a lower speed limit if they feel it's appropriate. We recognize that a lower speed limit alone will not work unless adequate enforcement is pursued but this bill leaves that as a local decision too.

Our offices have worked on drafting this bill with officials in the Department of Transportation. The measure passed the Senate on a voice vote and no one registered or testified against the bill in committee or on the Senate floor.

Thank you for your speedy hearing on this legislation.



BRIAN BURKE

WISCONSIN STATE SENATOR

Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Finance

TESTIMONY OF SENATOR BRIAN BURKE ON SENATE BILL 108

Before the Assembly Committee on Highway Safety

September 15, 1999

I want to thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, for the opportunity to offer my support for Senate Bill 108, relating to the authority to modify speed limits within historic districts.

This bill is the work product of the Public Policy Committee of the Wisconsin Trust for Historic Preservation, of which Senator Rude and I serve as chairs. The group meets regularly to discuss issues related to historic preservation. The committee is comprised of legislators, members of the public and other individuals who represent organizations that make historic preservation a priority in Wisconsin.

This bill is a modest, bipartisan proposal which gives communities, or the Department of Transportation where it has jurisdiction, the ability to modify speed limits within a historic district. A historic district is defined as a community listed on the National, State or local register of historic places. By having the ability to adjust speed limits in these districts, communities can further preserve and maintain the historic character of the area. In addition, this proposal has the potential to cut down on noise and air pollution, which can be harmful to historic structures in the community.

The Committee consulted extensively with the Department of Transportation on this proposal, and the Department has expressed its support of the bill in its current form. I certainly appreciate your prompt review of this legislation, and I am hopeful that you can offer your support for it today.