

Wisconsin State Fire Chiefs Association, Inc.

Together We Can Make A Difference



- Education
- Prevention
- Safety
- Suppression
- · EMS

<u>Memorandum</u>

TO: Members of the Joint Finance Committee

FROM: Gregg A. Cleveland, President WSFCA

DATE: April 13, 1999

SUBJECT: Length of Service Awards Program

Good morning. My name is Gregg Cleveland. I am the President of the Wisconsin State Fire Chiefs' Association. I am here to speak to you concerning the Length of Service Awards Program.

This program is designed to recruit and retain volunteer fire fighters across the State of Wisconsin. I am sure that you have probably heard about this program because of the large number of sponsors in the Senate and the Assembly. This program has been designed as a tax deferred program under the rules of the Internal Revenue Service. Local communities that voluntarily participate in the program will be eligible to receive matching funds from the State under the proposed program.

Senator Zein has estimated that the program may cost as much as 5-7 million dollars and there has been limited discussion as to possible funding sources. The WSFCA believes that one potential funding source may be the tobacco money that the State will be

P.O. Box 774, Milwaukee, WI 53201 Phone: 1-800-375-5886 Fax: 414-644-7294 (press *12) Length of Service Awards Program April 13, 1999 Page 2

receiving in the coming years. According to the National Fire Protection Association, smoking was the leading cause of home fire deaths for the years 1992-1996. Careless use of smoking material continues to be one of the leading causes of fires in Wisconsin as well as the United States.

The WSFCA strongly believes that the Length of Service Awards Program is vital to maintaining cost effective fire and emergency medical services to towns, villages, and cities in Wisconsin.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my comments.

LANGLADE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

840 Clermont Street
Antigo, Wisconsin 54409-1947

David C. Steger Sheriff

Telephone: 715/623-4111

FAX: 715/623-5571

Teletype: WI0340000

LGSO

Larry Shadick Chief Deputy

April 12, 1999

Joint Finance Committee Stevens Point WI

To Whom it May Concern:

I would like to register my support of increasing the number of State Troopers in the State of Wisconsin. An increase of Troopers in my County would assist in Traffic Law Enforcement which would free up my Deputies to handle local complaints, such as burglaries, domestic, etc. This increase would assist in maintaining a higher level of security and safety for our citizens while traveling and living in Langlade County.

Sincerely,

Sheriff David C. Steger

LANGLADE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Sheriff David C. Steger por

cc: Wisconsin Troopers Assoc.

CITY OF EAGLE RIVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

525 Maple Street P.O. Box' 1269

Eagle River, Wisconsin 54521

Telephone: (715) 479-4343

12 April 1999

State of Wisconsin Finance Committee

The Eagle River Police Department supports the proposal to increase the available number of troopers in the area of the City of Eagle River and Vilas County. At the present time two troopers reside in Vilas County and are available on a limited basis when working and not on assignments outside the area.

The economic well being of our area is derived mainly through tourism and the community sponsors a number of activities to encourage tourist interest. Traffic movement and safety are important to the success of tourism in a community such as Eagle River. The Eagle River Police Department has supported this belief by providing a desk, telephone, and office space for the two troopers presently assigned. With the tourism in the northwoods having become year around in activity the need for additional troopers assigned to this area would be a benefit to the community.

You may be assured of my cooperation in all matters for providing effective law enforcement.

Sincerely,

sig Hjemvick

Chief of Police

TOTAL CASES

YEAR	TOTAL
1988	1781
1989	2136
1990	2256
1991	2843
1992	3017
1993	. 2887
1994	3075
1995	3696
1996	4086
1997	4040
1998 (projected=average of 1996/1997)	4065

Marathon Co. citations issued in 1998: 8921

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NX
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YEAR	TOTAL	PERCENTAGE + -	CASES PER ATTY.	
1988 1989	223 254	+ 13%	37 42	
1990	286	+ 12%	48	
1991	336	+ 178	56	
1992	371	+ 10%	62	
1993	. 326	1 4%	59	
1994	408	+ 148	68	
1995	562	+ 38%	94	
1996	675	+ 20%	113	
1997	662	1 2%	110	
1998 (projected == average of 1996/1997)	699	& ⊢ +	96	
			. -	

YEAR	TOTAL	PERCENTAGE + -	CASES PER ATTY.
1988	827 1088	+ 32%	138 181
	11.59	+ 78	193
1991	1518	+ 318	253
1992	1354	- 128	226
1993	1419	+ US	237
1994	1525	÷	254
1995	1953	+ 28%	326
1996	2265	+ 16%	378
1997	2215	- 3\$	369
1998 (projected = average of 1996/1997)	2240	상 다 +	320

YEAR	тотяц		PERCENTAGE	CASES PER ATTY.
1988	532			68
1989	569		+ 7%	95
1990	525		1 CS	88
1,991	719		+ 37%	120
1992	1074		+ 49%	179
1993	751		43%	125
1994	750		138	125
1995	969		- 7%	116
1996	780		+ 12%	130
1997	803		+ 3%	1.34
1998	792		6/0 1-1	ETT
(projected = average of 1996/1997)		3		

JUVENILE CASES

YEAR	TOTAL		% ·	CASES PER ATTY.
1988 1989	Case Breakdown Not Available	199 225	+ # #	33 38
. 0661		286	+ 27%	48
1991	11	270	1 6%	45.
1992	Delinquency CHIPS/Truancy	203 15 218	- 248	36 36
1,993	Delinquency CHIPS/Truancy	334 27 361	+ 4	. 09
1994	Delinquency CHIPS/Truancy	327 65 392	+ o/ · %	э ю
1995	Delinquency CHIPS/Truancy	424 61 485	+ 24	831
1996	Delinquency CHIPS/JIPS/Truancy	289 cy 77 366	1 25 55 76	r o
1997	Delinquency JIPS/Truancy	300 60 360	, ,	09
1998 (projected = average of 1996/1997)	Delinquency JIPS/Truancy	295 69 364	4- % .	52

MARATHON COUNTY STATISTICS

Good morning Co-chairs Gard and Burke, and members of the Joint Committee on Finance.

Welcome to Central Wisconsin, and thank you for the opportunity it gives the voters of this area to express our views on the state budget.

You have a very big challenge ahead of you, a job that most of us in this room do on a monthly, sometimes weekly basis, although admittedly on a somewhat smaller scale. That job is to balance the "family checkbook," and your family checkbook is for the entire state of Wisconsin. Based on my years of experience with the family checkbook, I would like to respectfully offer a bit of advice.

When faced with a finite amount of "revenue" (i.e. wages) I have found it helpful to differentiate between "needs" and "wants" --- the needs and wants of individual family members as well as the needs and wants of the entire family. "Needs" are essential -- a certain basic level of food, clothing, shelter, transportation -- that's the relatively easy stuff. The "wants" are much trickier and kind of like frosting on the cake -- going out to eat instead of home food preparation, Nike basketball shoes instead of a no-name brand, a bigger house or newer car. Some "wants" we get, most we don't. So your challenge in this relatively tight budget cycle, is to meet the needs of state residents while keeping a careful eye on the wants.

During these hearings in five location throughout the state you will hear many requests for funding of many worthwhile programs and services. I would like to request consideration of an item that will benefit every single taxpayer in Wisconsin. Since no one in Wisconsin pays too little in taxes, I respectfully submit that the families of this state need a tax cut.

In 1998, I had the opportunity to be a candidate for elective representative office. During a four month period I knocked on almost 10,000 doors in Central Wisconsin, and I learned, first hand, directly from their mouths, that the biggest concern was taxes. I don't need to go over all the gruesome statistics -- it is a well-known fact that residents of Wisconsin pay some of the highest taxes in the entire nation. A tax cut will allow us to keep more of our hard-earned money. Then we, the taxpaying families of Wisconsin, have the privilege of deciding how to spend that money. I urge you to support an across the board reduction in income tax rates for all the working people of this state who are trying hard to balance their family checkbook.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts with you today.

Respectfully,

Maryani L. Lippert MaryAnn T. Lippert

8182 Apple Road, Pittsville, WI 54466



People for Green Space in Portage County

PO Box 861 Stevens Point WI 54481

Steering Committee:

Mike Champion

Chuck Egle

Todd Ernster

Larry Fritsch

Leo Jacoby

Kathy Powell

Larry Sipiorski

Dan Trainer

Kay Witt

Margaret Witt

For Immediate Release

April 12, 1999

TO: Wisconsin Joint Finance Committee Members of the Press

Rivers, woods, parks, trails, open spaces and wild places. Thanks to the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship over 160,000 acres of open spaces have been protected in the last 10 years in Wisconsin for future generations and us. It's a good start, but much more needs to be done.

Open space is a natural need for people and wildlife. As our communities continue to grow, it is urgent to balance development with conserving, restoring and creating green space.

The People for Green Space in Portage County strongly encourage the legislature to renew the Stewardship Fund for another 10 years at a level of funding that can truly make a difference. The green spaces in Wisconsin are rapidly changing color. They will be very difficult to change back.

The benefits of the Stewardship Fund are already felt in our county. The Green Circle Trail was able to purchase 2 1/2 acres of land to help complete the 24-mile greenway that encircles the Stevens Point area. There are many more large and small high priority green spaces in Portage County and around the state that will benefit from a renewed Stewardship Fund.

People for Green Space recommend the WI Legislature:

Renew the Stewardship Fund

At \$60 million annually

Adjusted for inflation for each of the next 10 years

Increased funding is critical **now** to maintain and expand protection for parks, trails, natural and wildlife areas. Adjusting annually for inflation is also critical to help reduce the erosion of the fund's purchasing power from rising land prices (currently at an annual 6.6%).

People for Green Space contacts:

Kathy Powell 715 / 592-4600 Leo Jacoby 715 / 341-2790 Dan Trainer 715 / 341-2715

Testimony in Support of a Statewide Becoming an Outdoors-Woman Coordinator

Christine L. Thomas Joint Finance Committee Meeting Stevens Point, WI April 13, 1999

Thank you for the opportunity to say a few words on behalf of a project that could be important to the future of outdoor recreation in Wisconsin.

Initiative

While this initiative is not currently in the budget, I am asking you to consider adding a Becoming an Outdoors-Woman (BOW) coordinator to be funded in the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources budget.

Background

The Becoming an Outdoors-Woman program is an international project that was started in Wisconsin in 1991. It has grown from one workshop at the Treehaven Field Station that year to a program that has been embraced by 43 state resource management agencies and nine Canadian provincial agencies. During 1998 12,000 North American women participated in this project. The Wisconsin BOW program has now grown from one workshop to six weekend workshops. Last year 450 women participated in a variety of educational opportunities.

Rationale

This project could have significant future budget implications. Research has shown that women who attend BOW workshops significantly increase their purchases of licenses and equipment and become more interested in natural resource management. In a state like Wisconsin where fishing license sales have dropped and 5% of state revenue comes from hunting and fishing-related tourism, an investment in the future of these activities could pay great dividends.

Wisconsin is the state where this project began. We are a leader in the idea, but a follower in the effort. A number of states including Minnesota have created BOW coordinator positions through legislative action, while 40 states have created full or part-time BOW coordinator positions through agency action. I am asking you to make the small investment necessary to institutionalize this popular and important effort.

Thank you for your consideration.

LAND CONSERVATION

Normal Building - Room 203 104 S. Eyder Ave. Phillips, WI 54555

Phone: (715) 339-2550 E-mail: pczlcd@win.bright.net

April 13, 1999



ZONING ADMINISTRATION

Normal Building – Room 205 104 S. Eyder Ave. Phillips, WI 54565

> Phone: (715) 339-3272 FAX: (715) 339-3057

State of Wisconsin Joint Committee on Finance Public Hearing Recommendations

Subject: Governor's State Biennial Budget Bill - funding related to DATCP and DNR soil and water conservation, engineering assistance, land stewardship, and watershed protection in Northern Wisconsin

Honorable members of the Joint Committee on Finance:

I represent a coalition of elected officials working on Land & Water Conservation Committees. Overall, we are very pleased with the budget proposal, as it includes a level of priority for planning, land use, and stewardship not evidenced in previous budgets. Please accept the following recommendations from the Northwest Land & Water Conservation Association with regard to the Governor's 1999-2001 Budget Bill. They are organized by administrative agency for your reference.

Northern Wisconsin Engineering Assistance (DATCP) - For more than three years eighteen northern Wisconsin counties have requested two DATCP engineering positions to address unmet needs for technical assistance. Two DATCP engineering positions were requested by DATCP to equalize the northern region with other state regions. The Governor has recognized these needs by including a single engineering position in his budget recommendations. In northern Wisconsin, increasing workload and development pressure are driving the urgent need for these positions. Funding for two positions was proposed by DATCP from existing Soil & Water Resource Management funds. We are requesting your assistance in fulfilling our original request for two DATCP engineering positions in order to establish equal allocation of engineering resources in all regions in the state.

County Land & Water Resource Management Plans (DATCP) – We are very appreciative of the DATCP effort to work more closely with counties on local goals and objectives through the implementation of these resource plans. Unfortunately, the Soil & Water Resource Management Program does not provide the needed flexibility within their funding structure to allocate GPR or SEG \$ to the implementation of these plans. This is a problem because bonding dollars cannot be used to fund practices needed in northern Wisconsin such as watershed inventory, education work, staffing, or shoreland stabilization/restoration practices. In addition, funding sources previously available for these activities are no longer being made available. We ask that you work with us to establish at least one half of the LWRM implementation funds as GPR dollars, so that all counties can implement their Land & Water Resource Management Plans.

Farmland Preservation Program (DATCP) - The purpose of the program should both include protection of valuable farmland from development and conservation of soil & water resources. Proposed changes to this program do not encourage long term commitment to a conservation practice. Whereas, we support the concept of a conservation credit, the proposed structure sets up

NWLCA comments – page 2 Biennial Budget

landowners to enter annually (when they meet soil conservation standards) and leave the program when is it convenient. It also creates tracking problems for staff with limited resources where access to aerial photography and other information are unavailable. We encourage the legislature to consider making improvements to the Farmland Preservation Program on a more comprehensive basis, as a separate bill.

River Protection Grant Program (DNR) – Thank you for recognizing the need for and cost-effectiveness of protecting water quality! It is our hope that, for counties, this program can be integrated into the concept of the Land & Water Resource Management Plan implementation grants. Where local LWRM plans identify protection strategies for rivers, these moneys could be targeted through a single grant application similar to the integration of DNR nonpoint project applications. We believe that funding for this program should be increased significantly.

Wisconsin Waters Initiative (DNR) - DNR proposes to provide each watershed basin with a basin educator. We believe these positions will greatly enhance counties' ability to coordinate and provide services to the public. We also recognize the needs for additional DNR staff to work with county staff on water quality programs related to zoning and water regulations.

Stewardship Program Reauthorization (DNR) – The Stewardship Program helps to protect sensitive and/or critical habitat through acquisition of properties or conservation easements. Increased funding is needed to adequately protect northwestern Wisconsin's natural resources. Unfortunately, these dollars have not kept up with inflation. We hope you will help us by increasing the level of funding in this key program.

Land Information/Planning Initiative (DOA, DOT) – For some counties this may be the most important initiative Land Conservationists will see for many years! Soil information is currently not available to nine counties in northwestern Wisconsin. This information provides the most basic planning tool for resource managers. Please help to make the Land Information Board proposal a reality and support inclusion of mapping and digitizing soils information for all Wisconsin Counties.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these important issues. More specific information can be provided upon request. We appreciate your interest in natural resource issues and look forward to working more closely with you as the budget process continues.

Sincerely,

Diane Daulton

Northwest Land & Water Conservation Association Coordinator

Cc: Brett Larson, WLWCA Executive Director Jean Schomish, President, WALCE LCC Supervisors, Northwest Counties

ADAMS COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS

Jodi M. Helgeson

Julie A. Goodhue- Deputy JoAnn Reichhoff- Deputy 402 Main St ♦ PO Box 219 ♦ Friendship WI 53934 Phone 608-339-4206

April 13, 1999

I am writing to you to express my concern over two provisions in the Governor's Budget Bill. Please refer to the "Budget in Brief", page 23. I urge you to support a redraft of Item #1, soils mapping and digitization initiative with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to allow the Wisconsin Land Information Board (WLIB) control over the rate of funding. The WLIB and NRCS have agreed to a six-year time frame. The Governor's proposal shortens the time frame to 4 years which NRCS says is not feasible. By shortening the time period, funding available for local projects would be reduced. I especially am concerned with Item #2, reallocating funds to the Department of Administration for the purpose of building and housing a Wisconsin Land Information System without direction or supervision of the WLIB.

Let me give you a little history of the Wisconsin Land Information Program (WLIP). In 1990, Senators Wineke and Welsh promoted legislation to establish a program where retained fees would be used to benefit local government and state-wide programs through grants and the retained fees (of each recording fee received by the Register of Deeds offices, \$2.00 is sent to the WLIP and \$4.00 is retained at the county level for a Land Records Modernization Program). The WLIB which is composed of land records professionals from the private sector, local and state government guides the program. A statewide land information system has always been a goal of the WLIP. Data generated could be used by all levels of government and the private sector. If the WLIB control of the program would shift to the Department of Administration, all the hard work and money that has been put into the program will be for naught and the state will spend thousands of dollars needlessly, to start over again.

Adams County has benefited greatly from the current WLIP program. We have completed our pilot project in digital mapping and are currently working with a municipality to assist them in digitally mapping their township. The funds we have received through WLIP grants have assisted us in realizing our modernization plan. Without these funds, our mapping project would come to a stand still and the work we have completed would be for nothing. Other counties, such as ours, have also benefited from these funds as most do not have the monies locally to implement such a program. The benefits received from these programs could generate revenue in the future and save precious taxpayer dollars by reducing the cost to produce certain products such as soil and zoning overlays.

The existing relationship of the Wisconsin Register of Deeds Association with several state offices, including Department of Financial Institutions, Department of Health and Family Services, Vital Records Division, and the Department of Revenue, by establishing an open discussion of what is need from both ends of government (our offices from the user's end and the state offices from the final product end) has proven to increase the effectiveness of implemented programs and reduce the cost of state government I am sure that an open discussion with the Department of Administration and the Wisconsin Land Information Board is in order here. It appears that the above mentioned items were included in the budget bill without any consultation between the two groups (DOA and WLIB) as we know happens. It also appears that the Wisconsin Land Council (created in the 1997-1998 budget and functions with DOA) was unaware of these items in the budget. Until now, it had seemed that all parties were working cooperatively together.

It is my desire that you would support a redraft of Item #1 and support removal of Item #2 as noted in the "Budget in Brief". I feel that both of these items need to be looked at further by all parties involved before being included in this budget.

Thanking you in advance.

Sincerely,

Jodi M. Helgeson Register of Deeds

Monies Adams County has received from WLIP grants 1995 - \$75,000.00 - Pilot project for digital mapping including setting some GPS points - covered 2 full townships and 2 partial townships.

1998 - \$10,000.00 - Assisted Town of Rome to initial digital mapping. Township has placed money into budget for this project also. Mapping will continue as grant funds are available

Projected 1999 - \$4,000.00 - Continue mapping Town of Rome

I am especially concerned with partially completed projects. If no further grant monies are available then this project would be shelved and the changes in technology could hinder start-up.



WISCONSIN CHAPTER 633 West Main Street Madison, Wisconsin 53703

608/251-8140 608/251-8535 FAX

Statement of Harald Jordahl in support of the Knowles - Nelson Stewardship program. Stevens Point, April 13, 1999

The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund is one of Wisconsin's biggest environmental success stories and will pay great dividends for years to come. The Stewardship Fund, created in 1990 as part of the state budget that year, needs to be renewed as a part of the 1999 - 2001 state budget. Over the past year, The Nature Conservancy has closely watched and participated in the proceedings of Governor Thompson's Blue Ribbon Task Force on the renewal of the Stewardship Fund.

We are happy to support many of the fine recommendations made by the Governor's Blue Ribbon Task Force. This Task Force strongly recommended continuing the long term commitment to land conservation by continuing — and strengthening — the Stewardship program.

Three very important themes emerged after nearly a year of Task Force meetings:

- Stewardship needs to continue. Stewardship is a success and should be continued without missing a
 beat. Task Force Members with different backgrounds and political leanings all recognized the
 successful contributions of Stewardship and the need to continue the program in the future.
- Stewardship's purchasing power must be restored and expanded. The Task Force recognized that
 land is getting more expensive and that the Stewardship Fund must be adjusted for inflation if we want
 to continue and strengthen a successful Stewardship program. The Conservancy supports State Senator
 Kevin Shibilski's proposal to the Task Force that new program start at \$60 million per year so that it
 will recover from inflation and meet new conservation opportunities.
- Streamlining Stewardship will strengthen Stewardship. Stewardship can be improved by streamlining some categories and increasing the ability of the Department of Natural Resources Board to respond to unforeseen and pressing conservation land opportunities.

Stewardship needs to continue.

Stewardship has achieved tremendous conservation successes in all parts of the state. Stewardship let the state purchase the 8,700 acre Willow Flowage, protected the last undeveloped stretch of the Wisconsin Dells, created the Lower Wisconsin Riverway, and expanded the Ice Age Trail. Hundreds of smaller purchases have helped to expand and complete existing state parks, trails and wildlife areas. \$45 million of matching grants have been awarded to non profit conservation groups and local governments to expand local parks and protect important conservation lands.



Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 285, Stevens Point, WI 54481-0285



April 13, 1999

Senator Brian Burke
Co-Chair Joint Committee on Finance

Representative John Gard
Co-Chair Joint Committee on Finance

Dear Sirs:

The Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association, a nonprofit, educational organization for private woodland owners in Wisconsin, would like to bring to your attention some of the concerns of Wisconsin's private woodland owners in regard to the proposed budget.

Specifically, we request:

1. the DNR budget item 5122: Fire Control and Suppression Support be fully funded

The DNR has requested 4 FTE positions and additional equipment to provide support for fire control and suppression. These 4 FTE positions will not only aid in dispatching for fire suppression on private lands but some of them will be available to assist private landowners with forest management advice. These positions are very necessary especially in light of the drought that Wisconsin is currently experiencing.

2. additional service foresters in the DNR to work with private landowners In Wisconsin, 57% of the forests are owned by private individuals, and while this percentage has remained fairly consistent over time, the number of private woodland owners has greatly increased due to fragmentation of these lands. Currently, there are over 200,000 private woodland owners in Wisconsin. Many of these individuals are striving to become good stewards of their woodlands. In their search for assistance, landowners frequently turn to their local DNR service forester as their first contact for advice. Unfortunately, many of the DNR service foresters are so backlogged, that landowners must wait 6 months to a year for this needed assistance. During this waiting period we run the risk of losing many landowners with good intentions. How many of you take interest in a project and then if something delays it never return to finish the project? This is exactly what we are seeing happen with private woodland owners.

3. additional funding for forest appreciation efforts

We support additional funding for efforts to inform woodland owners and the general public about the benefits forests provide for all the citizens of Wisconsin. We see the need to educate not only school children but adults about the benefits our forests provide whether it is clean water and air, recreation, wood products, or wildlife habitat. Brochures like the new one produced by the Governor's Council on Forestry will go a long way toward answering peoples questions and making them more aware of the importance of our forests.

Thank you for your time and consideration in these matters.

FAX 715/346-4821 WWOA OFFICERS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1998-1999 PRESIDENT

WWOA OFFICE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Nancy C. Bozek

P.O. Box 285

Stevens Point, WI 54481 715/346-4798

Jack D. Edson \$12824 County Road U Strum, WI 54770 715/878-4331

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Nancy C. Bozek
Executive Director

Sincerely,

Despite the many successes, the work is not complete. Wisconsinites are always finding new ways to enjoy our natural heritage. Bike trail riding, cross country skiing and sea kayaking were unheard of 30 years ago. Today, these are common activities at many of our most popular parks and conservation lands. In 1960, there were 15 visitors for every acre of state park land while today there are more than 20. With continuing population and tourism growth, we must continue to protect conservation lands before they are lost.

Purchasing power must be restored and expanded

We support State Sen. Kevin Shibilski's proposal to the Task Force calling for the new program to start at \$60 million a year. This funding will help the state to regain the lost purchasing power of the original fund and also let the state be in a position to respond to the rapidly disappearing land resources in the state. The cost of land has grown at an average annual rate of 6.6% while funding for the Stewardship Fund has been frozen at \$25 million. This means that Stewardship is able to protect less and less every year.

In order to strengthen Stewardship, one of the first priorities must be for the Legislative Joint Finance Committee to restore the purchasing power of the fund when it was first established. Because of once in a lifetime opportunities on the horizon with utility restructuring and changes in the forest products industry, we also support increasing the Fund in order for the state to take advantage of potential large conservation opportunities.

Streamlining Stewardship will strengthen Stewardship

We support the Task Force's direction towards streamlining the new Stewardship program. We would suggest the new program should simplify from the current 12 categories and create six larger categories.

- General Conservation Land Acquisition
- General Development And Local Assistance
- Trails, including the Ice Age Trail and the state trail program.
- Water Resources, including Streambanks, Lower Wisconsin River, Wild Lakes and Rivers and Great Lakes Shorelines
- Natural Areas
- Landscapes of Statewide Significance, starting with areas such as Great Lakes Bluffs, the Middle Moraine, and the Baraboo Hills. This category should be expanded to meet newly identified priorities around the state.

To help the new program meet unexpected opportunities, the program should allow the Natural Resources Board to transfer unexpended funds between categories.

We also support the Task Force recommendation to create a special "Federal Opportunities Fund" separate from Stewardship that the state can utilize as a source of matching funds for federal programs that are distinct from Stewardship. This should be the source of state matching funds for the state Conservation Reserve Enhancement program and other potential federal programs.

The Nature Conservancy pledges to continue to work with state policy makers and conservation groups to support the renewal of this tremendous conservation program.

Stewardship is protecting our children's and grandchildren's natural heritage in Wisconsin. The Wisconsin Legislature should take this chance to continue the investment that we are making in the future of our outdoors and renew a strong Stewardship Program.

Enough is Enough

We are living in a time of transition. Where many have seen, felt and realized that growth is ruining the quality of life we value. The most important change is the reduction and fragmentation of lands, agricultural lands and natural lands—forests, savannas, prairies and wetlands.

Enough is Enough. Some of us espouse planned growth, regulated growth, cluster developments, sewered lake properties, though important, some say enough development. The Enough is Enough Program has been in the works for many years. You might have heard your mother tell you about the program when you were a child saying "Enough is Enough". It is more important than ever today.

THE STEWARDSHIP FUND should be increased to \$60 million per year, adjusted for inflation for each of the next 10 years. Natural lands, open and wild spaces need to be preserved in Wisconsin. The CENTRAL WISCONSIN LAND TRUST (affectionately called the back to the land trust) supports the results, land preservation, of a grand STEWARDSHIP FUND.

Jo Ellen Seiser Central Wisconsin Land Trust (BLT) 715 346 3424 TO:

State of Wisconsin Joint Finance Committee

time and consideration in reading through this position paper.

Budget Public Hearing: April 13, 1999, UW-Stevens Point

FROM:

Paula Cummings, Director, Wisconsin Land Information Association Clerk/Treasurer, Town of Pine Grove, Portage County, WI

Clerk/Treasurer, Town of Pine Grove, Portage County, WI

This position paper is being presented to increase awareness of two items in the proposed State Budget as relates to land information initiatives and problems felt to come about, if these items are left as proposed. I would ask that legislation be redrafted, as relates to the soils mapping and digitization initiative with the Natural Resources conservation Service, to allow the WLIB to retain control over the rate of funding for the Statewide soil initiative; as well as redrafting the legislation relating to reallocating WLIP funds to the DOA for the purpose of building and housing a Wisconsin Land Information System (WLIS) without direction or supervision of the WLIB, by recognizing the importance of the WLIB and removing this from the proposed budget in its entirety. Thank you for your

Position of the Wisconsin Land Information Association Regarding the Governors 1999/2001 Biennium Budget Land Information Initiative

In 1989, the Legislature approved the formation of the Wisconsin Land Information Program (WLIP) and then in 1991 created a funding mechanism for the program based on deed recording fees. In addition to the funding mechanism, the Legislature provided that the WLIB:

- 1. Direct and supervise the overall Land Information Program for Wisconsin,
- 2. Serve as the State Clearinghouse for access to Land Information and to maintain and distribute an inventory of land information systems,
- 3. Provide technical assistance and advice to state and local governments.
- 4. Prepare guidelines to coordinate the modernization of land records and information systems,
- 5. Review and approve applications for grants-in-aid from local government units and
- 6. Review for approval, countywide plans for land records modernization.

Funding and oversight of the legislative charges above is guided and controlled by the Wisconsin Land Information Board (WLIB), whose membership is appointed by the Governor. This innovative program implemented organizational reforms, introduced new technologies such as Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and guided the modernization of local land records in such a way as to enhance overall statewide land information resources. Counties and other program participants soon realized WLIP funding was insufficient to pay for all modernization activities single-handedly. Consequently, local governments quickly became innovative in planning and finding supplemental funding for individual projects. (E.G.: \$50 million in WLIP funds have been supplemented with at least another \$50 million in non-program funds.) Therefore, the program has been directly responsible for widespread cooperation between agencies at all levels of government and the private sector. The WLIP has been a critical factor in reducing duplication of governmental records and activities, resulting in significant taxpayer savings. The Wisconsin Land Information Program has become a national model based on this cooperative, grass roots and bottom up system of modernization.

The role of the WLIB in supervising the WLIP funding was to assure that funds for individual projects are used in concert with the overall WLIP plans, so as to enhance the entire state's land information resources. The ultimate goal was to build a coordinated statewide Land Information System (LIS) through the use of a distributed system of local data warehouses. In other words, data would be generated and used locally but integrated across jurisdictional boundaries, allowing "horizontal" and "vertical" access to data by all layers of government and private sector users. The WLIB recognizes that the realization of a confederated LIS is only possible if the combined expertise found within the community of land information professionals in this great state is used to the fullest extent possible.

This expertise resides, for the most part, in the Wisconsin Land Information Association (WLIA), which was organized in 1987. The WLIA conceived the idea of a "bottom-up" approach to a land information system, organized throughout the state, involved in and based on the data and systems of the same agencies producing and maintaining the information. WLIA promoted the legislation creating the WLIP and the WLIB. This community, of stakeholders and concerned land information professionals, is committed to the continued deliberate development of an integrated land information system for Wisconsin, thereby guaranteeing the success of not only the system but that of the decision makers who will use it.

ISSUES

In the Governor's Budget, there are two Land Information Initiatives that dramatically change the intent of the original legislation regarding the WLIP and the ability of the WLIB to control the funding and direction of the program. These proposals, found in "The Budget in Brief" on page 23, are:

- 1. To increase the amount of yearly WLIP contribution for the NRCS soil mapping/digitization initiative allocated by the WLIB, by decreasing the timeframe for payment.
- 2. To use WLIP funds to create a Wisconsin Land Information System (WLIS) housed and controlled exclusively by the DOA.

ITEM #I- SOILS MAPPING & DIGITIZATION INITIATIVE WITH NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS)

The NRCS has proposed a cost-sharing program to speed up the mapping of soils and digitization of soil data in Wisconsin. This project was considered beneficial by the WLIB and they were willing to contribute program funds at the rate of 20% (approximately \$415,000) of the available funds over a six year period because:

- 1. It completes a much needed foundational element enhancing the state's overall resources for planning initiatives
- 2. It captures almost 8 million dollars in federal funds by partnering with NRCS.
- 3. It will take a minimum of 6 years to complete the entire project.
- 4. It keeps 80% of the WLIP funds available for other much-needed local projects.

This deliberate rate of funding allows the continuance of the original intent of the legislative charges and vision of the WLIP.

The Governor's proposal has the following ramifications:

- 1. It reduces the time frame for completion of the soils digitization and mapping project to 4 years, which is technically infeasible according to the NRCS (stated at the WLIB meeting on 3/10/99).
- 2. It increases the rate of funding to approximately 35% of the available program funds (\$620,000), reducing the funding available for local projects.
- 3. It abrogates the WLIB's legislative charge to control allocation of the WLIP funding.

WLIA PROPOSAL ON ITEM #1

• Redraft the legislation allowing the WLIB to retain control over the rate of funding for the statewide soil initiative.

ITEM #2- REALLOCATING WLIP FUNDS TO THE DOA FOR THE PURPOSE OF BUILDING AND HOUSING A WISCONSIN LAND INFORMATION SYSTEM (WLIS) WITHOUT DIRECTION OR SUPERVISION OF THE WLIB

Throughout the history of the WLIP, we have recognized the need for and have been working deliberately toward a confederated, integrated, and accessible Wisconsin Land Information System. With the advent of the Wisconsin Land Council in 1997, the WLIB and the WLIA have all agreed to a partnership that works in concert to develop a system worthy of Council's legislative charges, without compromising the vision of the WLIP. Specific agreements made included:

1. Preserving the integrity and statutory role of the WLIB

2. Preserving the funding of the WLIP for Board approved and directed activities

3. That the..."proposed council provides new opportunities to expand, not restrict, the resources available to collect and use land information needed by local governments..."

4. That the council activities "involve researching, developing, designing, recommending and coordinating. They do not involve policy making, rule making, controlling, directing or restricting the authority of any state agency or local government."²

5. The creation of a Memorandum of Understanding between the DOA, WLC and the WLIB; which is evidence of the clear intent by at least two of the groups to work together in harmony for the betterment of Wisconsin.

This budget initiative is the antithesis of the legislative intent of the 1991 acts providing for the supervision and funding of the WLIP, the functionality of the MOU (that is yet to be ratified), the agreements and assurances of the DOA, and 10 years of foundational work by the land information professionals in the state. The funding of the DOA's WLIS is premature, since the statutory charge of the WLC is to study and propose recommendations for a WLIS prior to legislative funding requests.

The Governor's proposal has the following ramifications:

- 1. It diverts WLIP funds to the DOA for an as yet undefined Wisconsin Land Information System (WLIS) which has the disastrous potential of being a monolithic database housed and controlled at DOA, eliminating the confederated system already being developed by experts statewide.
- 2. It also creates an incredibly costly duplication of effort as the WLIB has a statutory charge to serve as a clearinghouse for land information, and has been funding and guiding a partnership with the State Cartographer's Office to such ends.
- 3. It eliminates a confederated systems approach, which support individual local needs while allows the most current information to be made available to all citizens statewide.
- 4. It removes all funding control and development supervision of the WLIS from the Wisconsin Land Information Board and allows the Department of Administration to invest itself with the entire responsibility of building a statewide tool for decision making; thereby ignoring the expertise of the land information specialists in the form of WLIA, working in concert with WLIB, which is the foundation for the achievements realized in the last 10 years.

WLIA PROPOSAL ON ITEM #2

- Remove item #2 from the budget in its entirety
- · Restore control of the funding to the WLIB
- Require the DOA to adhere to the legislative charges of the Wisconsin Land Information Board and Program, the Wisconsin Land Council and to follow the proposed MOU between WLIB, WLC and DOA.

¹ DOA Secretary, Mark Bugher's letter to Wisconsin legislators dated March 21, 1997

² DOA Secretary, Mark Bugher's letter to Wisconsin legislators dated March 21, 1997



122 STATE STREET, SUITE 200 MADISON, WISCONSIN 53703 608-257-2424 FAX 608-251-1655 wisrivers@igc.apc.com

Statement of Thomas M. Miller Chairman of the Board River Alliance of Wisconsin

I want to thank the members of the Joint Finance Committee for the opportunity to present written testimony on behalf of the more than 800 members of the only statewide rivers organization, the River Alliance of Wisconsin.

The proposed Wisconsin Rivers and Streams Protection Grants Program in the Governor's budget is a very good beginning and certainly worthy of your strong support. This is a critical first step in the creation of a long overdue, and much needed, river's program for the citizens of Wisconsin. The program will enhance public/private local interests in their work toward a more communitybased watershed stewardship.

I urge that this proposal be viewed favorably by the members of the Joint Finance Committee and indeed, the entire Legislature. This \$400,000 per year outlay is vital to the state's overall goal in bringing public and private stakeholders together for improved watershed management.

Our rivers are the natural arteries of our great state. And as such, we need our Legislature, Chief Executive, and public and private interests to begin a methodical, long term proactive approach to river protection. Outdoor enthusiasts, fishers, boaters, naturalists, hunters and others rely on a healthy, vibrant riparian ecosystem.

My hope is that you will embrace the Governor's proposal and if at all feasible, find additional new General Purpose Revenue and build upon his proposal. Our river's health and vitality not only enhance our state's quality of life, but also bring countless millions of dollars into our state.

Thank You.

Thomas M. Miller

Chair **RAW**

> N2017 County K Waupaca, WI 54981

WLWCA/WALCE Recommendations on the 99-01 Budget Bill

Land & Water Resource Management Plans (LWRM) - DATCP

- Support the Governor's proposed language for new minimum contents for these plans.
- Support the association's proposal for a "Unified Grant System" for implementing statewide nonpoint
 performance standards through county Land & Water Resource Management Plans. This proposal would
 increase DNR/DATCP program integration and greatly simplify the grant process. Notes to consider in legislator
 contacts:
 - This will result in a single grant contract with each county that receives a grant, no matter how many conservation "projects" for which they are involved.
 - Emphasize the need for a base level of staff funding to meet statewide performance standards. Competitive grants would be for targeted projects.
 - Nonpoint performance standards will, at a minimum, address animal waste management (4 prohibitions), nutrient management and sediment. (Note: still in drafting phase.)
- Support additional funding of \$5 million per year for LWRM plan implementation. Amount proposed in Governor's budget (\$800,000 per year) would only allow up to \$13,000 per county (with 60 approved plans) and can only be used for cost sharing. This is not enough to support the average cost sharing needs for a single landowner. DNR and DATCP grant histories show the need for an increase of \$5 million per year to begin making progress on nonpoint performance standards. Other notes:
 - Note that DATCP base level funding for local conservation staff (GPR) has decreased 10% since 1990.
 If adjusted for inflation, the amount has actually decreased 40%.
 - Since programs are emphasizing cost effective practices, a minimum of 50% of grant funds must be designated for technical assistance (staff and support costs). Bonding alone won't work.
- One source of additional funds could be the DATCP agrichemical management fees proposed to be reduced (\$2.4 million) for the next two years. Other sources are the \$4 million in new funding proposed for the Nonpoint program and \$800,000 for the Rivers Protection grants, as noted below.

Nonpoint Programs - DNR

- Support the proposed \$2 million targeted for new nonpoint projects. However, funding for counties needs to be integrated with County Land & Water Resource Management grants.
- Support the proposed \$2 million targeted for meeting animal waste nonpoint performance standards. However, funding level is inadequate and needs to be integrated with Land & Water Resource Management grants.
- Support the \$36.8 million dollars in GPR, SEG and bonding funds designated to support existing watershed
 projects and the proposed \$2 million to increase local annual cost-share reimbursement allocations (ACRA's).
- Request removal of statutory limit on the use of cost sharing funds within a calendar year without penalty or else
 millions of dollars cannot be utilized each year. Need flexibility.
- Support the proposed funding for 2 additional full time NR-243 animal waste investigators.

River Protection Grants - DNR

 Support the concept of providing grants for pollution prevention work. However, request that for counties this be integrated with County Land & Water Resource Management grants to avoid creating another separate inefficient "pigeon hole" grant to deal with.

Farmland Preservation Program - DATCP

- Support the concept of a conservation credit and encouraging purchase of development rights however, the credit
 amounts are not sufficient.
- Request that this language be removed from the budget and dealt with as a separate bill to allow more thorough review of impacts of the proposed changes. For example:
 - What incentive is left for communities to adopt exclusive agricultural zoning?
 - What about the Farmland Tax credit? Could it be combined to make this credit more reasonable for those that meet the performance standards?
 - Can the conservation provisions be phased in so counties can handle the workload?
 - Will there be administrative rules?

Stewardship Program - DNR

• Support the extension and increase in funding for this important effort.

Contacts:

Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association: (WLWCA)

Brett Larson-Executive Director One Point Place, Suite 202 Madison, WI 53719 608-833-1833

Wisconsin Association of Land Conservation Employees (WALCE)

North Central Representative Paul Daigle 210 River Drive Wausau, WI 54403 715-261-6006

REMARKS OF ATTORNEY GENERAL JAMES E. DOYLE BEFORE THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE MARCH 11, 1999

GOOD AFTERNOON. I AM PLEASED TO BE HERE TODAY TO TALK WITH YOU ABOUT THE BIENNIAL BUDGET PROPOSED FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

IN GENERAL, THE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED BUDGET RECOGNIZES THE LEADING ROLE THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE PLAYS IN WISCONSIN'S LAW ENFORCEMENT AND LEGAL COMMUNITIES. MANY OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS WOULD IMPROVE OUR ABILITY TO DELIVER VITAL SERVICES TO LOCAL AGENCIES AND WOULD **ENHANCE** EFFECTIVENESS OF WISCONSIN'S CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM. IN FACT, I AM PLEASED THAT THE GOVERNOR RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF MANY OF OUR REQUESTS. THERE ARE SOME AREAS OF DEEP CONCERN THAT I WILL ADDRESS LATER. BUT FIRST, LET ME HIGHLIGHT SOME OF THE ITEMS IN THE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSAL THAT WE SUPPORT.

- 1. WE WILL HAVE ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR AN <u>INDIAN LAW INITIATIVE</u> TO ADDRESS THE INCREASING FREQUENCY, COMPLEXITY AND MAGNITUDE OF LITIGATION INVOLVING NATIVE AMERICAN ISSUES.
- 2. WE WILL BE ABLE TO PROSECUTE MORE INSTANCES OF <u>PATIENT</u> <u>ABUSE</u> IN MEDICAID-FUNDED FACILITIES, WHERE SOME OF OUR MOST FRAIL AND DEPENDENT CITIZENS ARE VICTIMIZED.
- 3. AT THE CRIME LABS, WE WILL BE ABLE TO EXPAND FIELD RESPONSE SERVICES AT THE WAUSAU CRIME LAB, DEVELOP STATE-OF-THE-ART DNA TESTING TECHNIQUES AT THE MADISON AND MILWAUKEE LABS AND UPGRADE CRITICALLY NEEDED LAB INSTRUMENTATION.

NEW SERVICES WILL BE PROVIDED TO <u>SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS</u> IN AREAS OF THE STATE THAT LACK THESE PROGRAMS AND WE WILL BE ABLE TO CONTINUE TO ASSIST COMMUNITIES WITH IMPROVING THE INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT.

I APPRECIATE THE GOVERNOR'S SUPPORT FOR THESE PARTS OF OUR BUDGET REQUEST. HOWEVER, THERE ARE SOME SERIOUS PROBLEMS WITH THIS BUDGET THAT I NEED TO ADDRESS.

CRITICAL NEEDS NOT SUPPORTED BY THE GOVERNOR

THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TOOK GREAT PAINS TO SUBMIT A BUDGET REQUEST THAT MET THE TARGETS SET BY THE GOVERNOR. FISCAL RESTRAINT IS SOMETHING THAT WE, TOO, TAKE VERY SERIOUSLY. CONSEQUENTLY, OUR BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST INCLUDED ONLY THE VERY HIGHEST NEEDS FACING LAW ENFORCEMENT. IT WAS OUR HOPE THAT THIS EXERCISE OF RESTRAINT WOULD RESULT IN APPROVAL OF OUR REQUESTS. UNFORTUNATELY, THE GOVERNOR WITHHELD SUPPORT FOR SOME VERY IMPORTANT ITEMS. I WILL MENTION ONLY A FEW.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS ADVOCATE—1993 WISCONSIN ACT 496 TO ASSESS COMMISSION SERVICE **PUBLIC** DIRECTED THE **COST** OF **FOR** THE **TELECOMMUNICATIONS** UTILITIES TELECOMMUNICATIONS ADVOCATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. THIS PROJECT POSITION WILL EXPIRE AT THE END OF THIS FISCAL YEAR. BECAUSE OF THE COMPLEX ISSUES IN THIS AREA THAT REMAIN CONVERSION OF THIS POSITION TO UNRESOLVED, WE REQUESTED A REPORT DELIVERED TO YOUR OFFICES PERMANENT STATUS. THE MANY IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES THE **OUTLINES** YESTERDAY TELECOMMUNICATIONS ADVOCATE HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN. I HOPE YOU WILL AGREE WITH ME THAT AS WE CONTINUE TO CONFRONT MASSIVE CHANGES IN THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY, WE NEED THIS POSITION TO REPRESENT THE INTERESTS OF WISCONSIN CONSUMERS AND BUSINESSES.

METHAMPHETAMINE INITIATIVE—WE REQUESTED TWO SPECIAL AGENTS AND AN INTELLIGENCE ANALYST TO COMBAT THE SPREAD OF METHAMPHETAMINE ABUSE. THIS DRUG CRISIS IS APPEARING IN MORE RURAL AREAS OF WISCONSIN, WHERE THERE IS SOMETIMES A SHORTAGE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL WITH SPECIALIZED DRUG EXPERTISE. IF OUR STATE FOLLOWS THE PATH TAKEN BY MANY OF OUR NEIGHBORS, THE DEVASTATION ASSOCIATED WITH METHAMPHETAMINE ABUSE WILL SPREAD RAPIDLY AND WREAK HAVOC. WE HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO PREVENT A PROBLEM BEFORE IT TRULY TAKES HOLD IN OUR STATE. THE GOVERNOR'S SUPPORT FOR ONE OF THE THREE REQUESTED POSITIONS FALLS FAR SHORT OF MEETING THIS CHALLENGE. WE NEED TWO SPECIAL AGENTS AND AN INTELLIGENCE ANALYST, BEGINNING JULY 1 OF THIS YEAR, TO EXPAND OUR CURRENT EFFORTS TO FIGHT THE SPREAD OF METHAMPHETAMINE THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

DNA ANALYSIS AT THE CRIME LABS—THE GOVERNOR DENIED OUR REQUEST TO ADD DNA CAPABILITY AT THE WAUSAU CRIME LAB. IN DOING SO, HE ALSO DENIED A SMALL AMOUNT OF FUNDING NEEDED TO OUTSOURCE NEW SAMPLES WHICH ARE COLLECTED FOR THE DNA DATABANK. OUTSOURCING IS AN EFFICIENT USE OF STATE RESOURCES, AND THIS SMALL AMOUNT OF PROGRAM REVENUE SHOULD BE RESTORED. WE ALSO NEED TO ESTABLISH A DNA PROGRAM AT THE WAUSAU LAB TO ENSURE THAT THIS CRITICAL CRIME-FIGHTING TOOL CONTINUES TO BE AVAILABLE FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

SEX PREDATOR ATTORNEY—THE LAST BIENNIAL BUDGET ACT CREATED 4.5 DOJ PROJECT POSITIONS TO HANDLE PROSECUTIONS AND APPEALS IN SEXUAL PREDATOR CASES. THESE POSITIONS ARE SCHEDULED FOR DELETION AT THE END OF THIS FISCAL YEAR. CLEARLY, THE CHALLENGE OF PROTECTING THE PUBLIC FROM DANGEROUS SEXUAL PREDATORS WILL NOT SIMPLY DISAPPEAR ON JUNE 30. THE GOVERNOR RECOMMENDS PERMANENT STATUS FOR ONLY 3.5 OF THESE POSITIONS—THE MAGNITUDE OF THE PROBLEM DEMANDS THAT ALL 4.5 OF THEM BE CONTINUED.

GUN HOTLINE— FEDERAL LAW NOW REQUIRES BACKGROUND CHECKS ON LONG GUNS. THE DEPARTMENT REQUESTED AUTHORITY AND RESOURCES TO CONDUCT BACKGROUND CHECKS ON PROSPECTIVE ADDITION BUYERS OF LONG GUNS, IN TO OUR **CURRENT** RESPONSIBILITIES REGARDING HANDGUNS. THE STATE'S GUN DEALERS AND PURCHASERS APPRECIATE THE SERVICE PROVIDED FOR MANY YEARS BY OUR HANDGUN HOTLINE, AND SHOULD HAVE "ONE-STOP SHOPPING" AVAILABLE FOR RECORDS CHECKS ON ALL TYPES OF FIREARMS. OUR REQUEST WOULD HAVE ADDED THREE POSITIONS TO HANDLE LONG GUN BACKGROUND CHECKS PAID FOR BY FEES, NOT THE TAXPAYERS. UNFORTUNATELY, THE GOVERNOR DENIED OUR REQUEST.

ILL-CONCEIVED INITIATIVES

THE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED BUDGET CONTAINS MANY GOOD THINGS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT IN WISCONSIN. UNFORTUNATELY, IT ALSO INCLUDES SOME UNDESIRABLE VENTURES. I URGE THE COMMITTEE TO PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THESE THREE ASPECTS OF THE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSAL:

1. THE LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING FUND SHOULD NOT BE MOVED TO DOA

FOR OVER 20 YEARS, THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HAS MANAGED THE LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING FUND. TRAINING AND OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT NEEDS IN WISCONSIN HAVE BEEN VERY WELL SERVED. ALL WISCONSIN CITIZENS HAVE BENEFITTED FROM THE TRAINING AND SUPPORT PROVIDED TO LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS THROUGHOUT OUR STATE.

THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET POSES A SERIOUS THREAT TO THIS PRODUCTIVE ARRANGEMENT. HIS PROPOSAL WOULD MOVE CONTROL OF ALL PENALTY ASSESSMENT SURCHARGE FUNDING—INCLUDING THE LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING FUND—TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION. THE STATUTORY FORMULA HISTORICALLY USED TO ALLOCATE THESE FUNDS WOULD BE REPEALED.

THE ORIGINAL PURPOSE OF THIS FUND WAS TO TRAIN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS. OVER THE YEARS, MORE AND MORE OF THESE MONEYS HAVE BEEN USED FOR OTHER PURPOSES—USES THAT, FRANKLY, HAVE LITTLE TO DO WITH THE NEEDS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT. UNFORTUNATELY, THE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSAL EXAGGERATES THAT TREND BY AUTHORIZING THREE SIGNIFICANT NEW USES OF THE FUND—\$4 MILLION FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS; \$3.2 MILLION FOR JUSTICE INFORMATION SYSTEMS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION; AND \$1.4 MILLION FOR REIMBURSEMENTS TO COUNTIES FOR VICTIM SERVICES—A DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE PROGRAM.

COMPUTER SYSTEMS IN CORRECTIONS AND DOA MAY BE WORTHY PROJECTS. HOWEVER, THEY SHOULD NOT CONSUME RESOURCES NEEDED FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT PURPOSES. UNFORTUNATELY, THAT IS THE RESULT OF THE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSAL. FOR EXAMPLE, WE HAVE WORKED CLOSELY WITH LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT LEADERS TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE OVERHAUL OF THE WAY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ARE TRAINED IN WISCONSIN. THEY STRONGLY SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PLAN AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME. THE PLAN, CALLED TRAINING FOR TOMORROW, WOULD BE PAID FOR WITH MONEY FROM THE LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING FUND. UNFORTUNATELY, DOA HAS REJECTED THIS INITIATIVE, FOR THE PRIMARY REASON THAT THE GOVERNOR HAS USED THE LAW ENORCEMENT TRAINING MONEY FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

I ASK THAT YOU REJECT THE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSAL TO MOVE CONTROL OF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING FUND TO DOA. I'M SURE YOU'LL BE HEARING FROM LAW ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATORS AND ASSOCIATIONS ACROSS THE STATE WHOSE OPPOSITION TO THIS PROPOSAL WILL BE VIRTUALLY UNANIMOUS.

2. <u>SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIM SERVICES AND FEDERAL VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT MONEYS SHOULD NOT BE USED TO REIMBURSE COUNTY COSTS OF SERVING CRIME VICTIMS</u>

IN RECENT YEARS, THREE FUNDING SOURCES HAVE BEEN AVAILABLE TO REIMBURSE COUNTIES FOR THEIR COSTS TO HELP CRIME VICTIMS IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM—GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUES, THE VICTIM/WITNESS SURCHARGE, AND A GRANT FROM THE OFFICE OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE. THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET AUTHORIZES US TO ALSO USE FUNDING FROM SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIM SERVICES AND THE FEDERAL VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT TO REIMBURSE COUNTIES.

THIS PROPOSAL IS UNSOUND. SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIM SERVICES AND FEDERAL VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT MONEYS SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE USED AS THEY ARE NOW, TO FUND LOCAL PROGRAMS WHICH PROVIDE DIRECT SERVICES TO CRIME VICTIMS. THE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSAL WOULD CREATE THE ILLUSION THAT COUNTIES WILL RECEIVE HIGHER LEVELS OF REIMBURSEMENT. HOWEVER. THIS WOULD OCCUR ONLY BY PITTING COUNTIES AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS AND OTHER CRIME VICTIM SERVICE PROVIDERS. REIMBURSEMENT **NEEDS** SHOULD BE ADDRESSED COUNTY SEPARATELY BY THE LEGISLATURE. THE GOVERNOR'S SCHEME IS CONFUSING AT BEST AND POTENTIALLY HARMFUL TO VICTIM SERVICES ACROSS THE STATE.

3. <u>VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT MONEYS SHOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATED FOR CORRECTIONS</u>

IN THEIR BUDGET REQUEST, THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS ASKED FOR GPR TO EXPAND THEIR ASSISTANCE TO CRIME VICTIMS. BUT ONCE AGAIN, THE GOVERNOR DIRECTLY APPROPRIATED MONEY FROM OUR AGENCY TO SUPPLEMENT THE CORRECTIONS BUDGET. THE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSAL WOULD TAKE AWAY FUNDING THAT IS NOW USED BY NON-PROFIT AGENCIES TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO VICTIMS. IF THE CORRECTIONS SERVICES ARE TRULY NEEDED, THEY SHOULD BE FUNDED WITH GPR, NOT AT THE EXPENSE OF OTHER IMPORTANT SERVICES.

CONCLUSION

THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND THE LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY IN WISCONSIN IS A STRONG AND PRODUCTIVE ONE. THE BUDGET REQUEST WE SUBMITTED LAST SEPTEMBER REFLECTED THE PRIORITY NEEDS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT ACROSS WISCONSIN, AS EXPRESSED BY CRIMINAL JUSTICE LEADERS THROUGHOUT THE STATE. THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET PROPOSAL CONTAINS MANY GOOD THINGS, BUT IT CAN BE IMPROVED.

THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING THESE ISSUES, AND FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO LAW ENFORCEMENT PRIORITIES IN WISCONSIN. MY STAFF AND I WOULD BE PLEASED TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS.

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JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE TESTIMONY

DONNA SEIDEL CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT MARATHON COUNTY APRIL 13, 1999

Good morning. My name is Donna Seidel, I am Clerk of Circuit Court in Marathon County and am here in that capacity to urge you to support the needs of Wisconsin's Circuit Court Automation Program known as "CCAP". I am also speaking on behalf of the other eleven clerks of court from the ninth judicial district.

In October of 1989, the featured article in the <u>Wisconsin Counties</u> magazine spotlighted a new supreme court initiative, defined as the most significant state court undertaking since the statewide court reorganization. The plan was to provide automated operational systems to interested counties. Thirty-six of the state's counties signed on, getting on the waiting list for some assistance in converting slow moving manual operations to systems with some level of automated efficiency. Today, 10 years later, every court in the state has some degree of dependence on this system, with most counties, like Marathon totally reliant on CCAP for management of the courts' day-to-day business.

As you have traveled around the state during this budget process, you have heard that CCAP has truly broken the mold-that it is a state created system of top quality, winning national acclaim and supporting the court systems in every district you represent; that the case management and financial components of the system are the essential tools for handling the ever increasing numbers of cases and dollars moving through the courtrooms and offices every day. Those counties concerned, anxious or skeptical about the ability of CCAP to perform as promised in that magazine article, have now come on board, installing the program or getting in line to do so. The user base has multiplied many times over to nearly 3,000 today. Complaints about this program are not what it does, but what it doesn't do-other county and state agencies are clamoring to copy, connect and interface with this superior product.

I don't want to repeat what you have already heard or may hear today from other CCAP advocates. I'd like to point out financial benefits counties and the state as a whole will realize due to CCAP.

It has been no secret that court debts in all Wisconsin counties total enormous sums-multiple millions of dollars have been ordered and assessed in courtrooms across the state; but historically most of the dollars have gone uncollected, primarily because tracking and collecting were most difficult if not impossible because of antiquated, manual or non-existent recordkeeping capabilities. With the financial component of CCAP, counties like mine can record the assessments and enforce these payment orders, successfully collecting much of these debts. As you know, these collected dollars are disbursed in the counties and throughout the state to agencies determined by you and your colleagues to be funded in part by court collections. All of these agencies funded in any part by surcharges and assessments collected by our state courts

through the CCAP system ought to be standing next to me, encouraging you, along with me, to provide a budget necessary to maintain this progress.

I urge each of you to go to your home communities, check out your local courts and ask how much improved our services are to the citizens of Wisconsin because of that court initiative called CCAP announced in that '89 news article. Ask how its level of successful software programs can be retained without adequate funding for its infrastructure improvements and equipment replacements, without adequate staff to support the 3,000 court users who are now dependent on one support person for every 100 of us.

Adequate funding for this program is in the best interest of all of Wisconsin's citizens; please assure CCAP's continued value by supporting the Supreme Court's budget request.

Thank you.

2355 total signatures PETITION IN Support OF GERIATRIC at NWC.

- * All collected within 9 days.
- * Mary more petitions are

still in progress. We can't

get them out quick enough.

- * major community support, c petitions circulated by Non employees and Ecotopy.
- * 1044 BIGNATURES from Chippewa Falls address.

For Your Information...

The total we have so far, as of this date 6-7-99- on petitionsheets in support of bringing the special report of bringing the special Meeds Correctional Facility to Mispecial Falls, Good jobs are good for the entire region are as follows.

Chippewa Falls

Grand total
2355

Bob Mitchell Bustev Danis Dick Schara

Thanks chain schain At 112 N. Reynolds At Buyd, WI 54736

Parl

PETITION IN <u>SUPPORT</u> OF BRINGING THE SPECIAL NEEDS CORRECTIONAL FACILITY TO CHIPPEWA FALLS. GOOD JOBS ARE GOOD FOR THE ENTIRE REGION.

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Vonie Somety	16 67 AX 124 27 CABITE	
Tem Sykora	10688 St Huy 178 Chippens Palls	>
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Su Dhakal	29968 County & Bryd W/	
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Carnew Filk	By204-5377- Maple St. Carott, W.	
Virginia A. Wunche	22 11 21 2 2 34	
Lillian Orne		
ght Ryon.	7465 220H St. Carlott die -	
Buth Buggs	19060 130th Ave Chippowa Falls	٠
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Susanne Schuette Box 351 Cadoff WI 5470> Mr. I mis Lauren findt Caelott Eugene King 238N. Elm St Cadott, WI-54727 Cia- Jellens 23456 beth Cadatt. WZ 54727 Senator Naugelin 1716 63PA Con Clave of 5/1903 Cler Dudmanson 26518 128 The Cadott Down Johnson 27703 State Hwy 64, Cornell, WI 54732 Led Cowell 605 Ravenswood Ct. AA 205 Cornell Snorey & Cowell 605 Ravenswood Ct. APT 205 Matt Denn Mats Denn Po Box 92 Cornell Cornell

Jerry Saldy w7762 ORD HY 14 Ladysmith

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Johnson 13784 Cty Rd. 00 Chippewa Falls, Schnson 13784 Cty Rd CD C.F. WE 54729 penda Bohz 5767 184th ST. C.R. WI 54729 henda Bohz 5767 184th ST. C.F. WI 54729 Barb Mueler 5734 189 # St. CF. Wi. 54729 MANL MUEUM 5734 1895 ST CF. WIS. 54729 Dear Moot 22479 1094 Lugg 54745

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NAME ADDRESS

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Aline zien	2088 115th ST Chippena Fred W
aften bien	2088 115th ST Chippenn Palesia:
Sharree Burns	8822 Cte, Hup & Souts Chippeundals les
Francis & Matt	615 RAM ST. CHIPPENA FACESUM
Hordis Martill	615 Randst. Chippens FAVIC
Hotel Couzel	8597 251th St. (latter (Vi
glentho Ryan	114101 250th St Condoct (W)
Bill kyan	11461 250th ST. Cadott
Fern Brunstal	12877 State Hux 124 C. F. W/
Loyd Brune as	12877 Statteng 124 CF.W/ 54709
Zin Western	30214 Cty Hay X Bayd
Jacki Western	30214 County Huy X Boyd WI
Sun Reefeld	526 E, So. AVE Chip FAYS
beil Herson	131 whether At Chypine Hall
Bonnie Davis	910 Mansfield St. C.F.
albette Pallager	10,500 1615
Patty Mewhorter	10693 State Hary 178 C.F.
Fearl Hanson	121- Whestowsh Ct.
Jane Woll	1378F 93 au C.F
Mary Ragel	722 & Jellmon Eaudain Wi
- me Flogs	5395 176 ST. C.F.
BOD + CEMITHE ANGEL	318 mansfield of Chip Folli
May Froley	17573 49 Thre. Chippeum Falls
Davin Schick	16411 2008H ST Jun Falls
Gerry Bangle	419 W. Quind Au Chip fly, W:57729
Barbara Graham	414 W. Your Ac Car PE 11/1 - 4729
Bol Helgen	5757 189 St. C.F.W. 54729
1 1 1 1 1 1	309 Stalles St Chipfle 547

C.F.

Verd Ebert 18644 '78th ave CF

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Parline Bangle 1037 Place St - C. 7.

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down Killed	13003 OGKKROTT Dr Coolett WI SYDET
Game anderson	1907 N 130th Sue Full Just with
don des	13345 50 Apr Chipme Jak
Van John	5696 1835 8t Chippenn Fallill
danie (ruba	Sacso Cty Rd D" Fall Creek Wis 1742
Jean Joekle	17/6 Cty Lley XX Condatt, WI
Agephing O'Brien	52185 O'Brien Rd-7-20 Creek 6154742
Holley Anja	SAOSO COHYD FALL CREEN W.54748
Beverly Till	E 15770 Ctykd, Q Fall Creek, W15. 54742
Frank Seriel	E18770 Hag a Fall crock
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Tamuy gindor	
ARRIGIO	8160 Coursell Dr EC 5970
for Mattery	E17075 AyRd X Fay Creds WI 54742
Musigelly	6608 Birch Hill Ct E.C 54703
Miche Middle (6107 Surned M. Eau Clair, W. 5403
Marchan Sept.	3044 TERRY LU FAU CLAIRE W. 54763
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Leelee Heppeer	3044 TERRY LN Eau Plaine, 427 54703 3821 Journal Caullaine The 54703
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The Veilal	4114 Russek Ct. Can Clavie Aus 54703
Jean Esto	1415 Peterson AN, Ean Claire, WJ 54703 .
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Sim forsella	16560 122 may C.F.
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takel top	19918 70th ace CF WIT
Ray Davis RN	8199 19th Ave Eau Claime Lise
Compager.	9685 156 to 54 C.F.
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alie Gudmanon	Calott
Gardan Sudmany	1 . 7 m to 16 to 16 to 2 - 7
Laden K. Schafer	Safayell
	Chippens FALLS
Jeannes For	Jun Falls
	977 Indiantills Dr. E.C.
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Must For	16765 ATK Jen Follo
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Cather SIM	ens) 823 high alt CFWISU729	_
Presilla,		
Marine 4	lunger 3112 Saturn the ConClaire W	4
Daniel Ja	te 6434, 1932 ST Chippewe Feel	
Kimberly K	Mathune 217075 Cty Rd. X Fall Creek, WI.	
RichardCu	lenger 6425 193 of 8+ Chippeus Falls, LIT 54%	29
Russel Ku	58400 cty RIR. FAICHER WE 54742	- 1
1 Jerisa John	son 1 171 Wesensin Ct Fall Creek, 10, 5474	
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MGB CINATO	5)3 Yanets Ave Stule	
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(Loft Colonia	315 N. Rose ST Boys W	
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Lerry Liveflin	SJOE Ingersoll ST Bord, WISYDE	
D. CD II	113 N RESE SI BOYD WY, 54724 450 W. Spruce St CF. 54729	
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7400 115th St CF 450 M Spulle St. CF 450 M Spulle St. CF 400 Ane Court Lot 5 Startey 142 E. Gan Ave. Starley 308 Adams 5t. 108 APt. Ha E murry ST. 711 & Murray St. Boyd, By 40 410 Jefferson St Starley WI. Hura & Boyd, W.

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Jan Jan	19821 Chilliand
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hu boom	PO BOX 134 Cadatt
Cael Se A	Lacro Cación
Shannon Moet	26862 135 Ave CAdottai
Pan Swin	19809 Chy PQ X #15 Chippewa Fal 19809 Cty Huyx #17 C. F.
allen Mason	W11598 Willow R. O Stanley

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Hoek	theway!	0830 Herrloof In Fachile W.	
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Helen	Slowaly	206 E 6 ave Stanley 54768	
Alex C	Slowink	206 6. 6 Pro Stanly 54768	
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PETITION IN <u>SUPPORT</u> OF BRINGING THE SPECIAL NEEDS CORRECTIONAL FACILITY TO CHIPPEWA FALLS. GOOD JOBS ARE GOOD FOR THE ENTIRE REGION.

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Jany Raran	931 w Spring & 54729
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Pam France	1002 W Struce St C.F. 54729
7 Brus Mayer	867 W Willaw CF 54729
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Dowchy J. Hettman	558 E South One CF 54729-3401
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Evin Sommifula	316 S. Grove St. Chippena Fally NI
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Af Loomeful	921 Line St. Chapeur Tales, Vis 5+12 9
March Schik	4562 13 god Chippiwa Tall, W:54129
Samantla f Schiele	4561 139th Chippewa Fell, Wi 54729
Lisa Sommerfeld	northern W. Center HVIB
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noy Ran	15440 CO HWY DO Chippewa FAUSINE
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Japan Janth	8/6 Olive & Blogging Falls We 547 29
How Snep.	816 Olive St. 1911
Sorothy Hatt_	1018 Pearry St. Chippewa Falls 1815472
weefelfo that	1018 Porne Al Chappens talls wi - 54729
margart Wiltraut	1027 Stanley St. Chippetrally 54729
Charles BW Stron	11/27 Standy St. Charge FU 54729
alice Jennem an	
Bev Jamanayer	reference and configuration of the second of
Corin gutter	1621 Storley St. Chemia Fails WI 5 4729
Derroy Zutter	1021 Staly St Clif Fall, WIS 4729
1 (/ 1/4	1114 Mansfeld St. C. F. W. 54739
Jeny Miller george gonne	1/20 mansfield St CFW 54729
AND Jahr	316 Division St. 54729
Reid Tripoler	1223 Mansfield ST CF 54729
La Verna Roegge	
Botton Hille	1101 Manslield C7 54729
Pratie Busco	1135 manshell C7, 5472 9
Hilbert Schride	
Tim Wyhos	733 Standy St. C.T. 54729
Condy ry Lus	733 Stanley St. C.F. 54729.
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