

2001 ASSEMBLY BILL 480

August 21, 2001 – Introduced by Representatives JOHNSRUD, DUFF, RYBA, KEDZIE, PETROWSKI, STONE, LIPPERT, HUEBSCH, LADWIG, KESTELL, KRAWCZYK, OWENS, OLSEN and SUDER, cosponsored by Senator ROESSLER. Referred to Committee on Government Operations.

1 **AN ACT** *to repeal* 27.01 (2) (h) and 28.03 (3); *to amend* 27.01 (5); and *to create*
2 16.848 of the statutes; **relating to:** the names of state buildings, structures,
3 facilities, and properties.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Currently, some state-owned buildings, structures, facilities, or properties are given names by law. Although the statutes do not specifically treat the issue, other state-owned buildings, structures, facilities, or properties have been formally or informally named by the agencies having jurisdiction over them.

This bill provides that the official names of state-owned buildings, structures, facilities, or properties (including federal and state highways and portions thereof) are the names given to them by law. The bill also prohibits any state agency from designating a name for any state-owned building, structure, facility, or property. However, the bill provides that any name given to a state-owned building, structure, facility, or property by a state agency having exclusive jurisdiction over that building, structure, facility, or property before the bill becomes law is valid unless otherwise provided by law.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

4 **SECTION 1.** 16.848 of the statutes is created to read:

ASSEMBLY BILL 480**1 16.848 Names of state buildings, structures, facilities, and properties.**

2 (1) In this section:

3 (a) “Agency” has the meaning given in s. 16.70 (1).

4 (b) “Facility” includes a highway, as defined in s. 340.01 (22), that is under the
5 jurisdiction of the department of transportation or any portion of such a highway.

6 (c) “Name” does not include a numeric or alphanumeric designation.

7 (d) “Property” means a unit of state-owned land that is geographically
8 separated or administered separately from other state-owned land.

9 (2) Except as provided in sub. (4), the official names of state buildings,
10 structures, facilities, or properties are the names given to them by law.

11 (3) No agency may designate a name for any state-owned building, structure,
12 facility, or property.

13 (4) Any name given to a state-owned building, structure, facility, or property
14 by an agency having exclusive jurisdiction over that building, structure, facility, or
15 property prior to the effective date of this subsection [revisor inserts date], is valid
16 unless otherwise provided by law.

17 **SECTION 2.** 27.01 (2) (h) of the statutes is repealed.

18 **SECTION 3.** 27.01 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 27.01 (5) **ROADSIDE PARKS.** All areas designated as roadside parks shall be a part
20 of the state park system. Roadside parks will consist of naturally attractive parcels
21 of land, 5 acres or more in size, immediately contiguous to a state trunk highway.
22 Each such area ~~shall carry a distinctive name and~~ shall be managed and developed
23 as a part of the state park system.

24 **SECTION 4.** 28.03 (3) of the statutes is repealed.

25

(END)