

2003 SENATE BILL 258

September 23, 2003 - Introduced by JOINT COMMITTEE FOR REVIEW OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULES. Referred to Committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

1 **AN ACT** *to create* 30.26 (4) of the statutes; **relating to:** suspending the
2 Department of Natural Resources rule related to limits on bridges over wild
3 rivers.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the legislature may designate rivers as part of the state's wild river system. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) administers the system to preserve, protect, and enhance the rivers' natural beauty and unique recreational value. Currently portions of the Pike, Pine, and Popple rivers are designated as wild rivers.

This bill prohibits DNR from promulgating a rule that prohibits the crossing of a bridge constructed before September 16, 2003, across a wild river by an all-terrain vehicle traveling on an all-terrain vehicle trail or by a snowmobile traveling on a snowmobile trail.

This bill is introduced as required by s. 227.26 (2) (f), stats., in support of the action of the Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules to suspend section 302.04 (5) (a) and (b), Wis. Adm. Code, a rule of DNR, on August 19, 2003. The suspended rule provides that bridges, other than state and municipal highway bridges, may only be constructed over scenic rivers if they meet certain conditions. These conditions include requirements that the bridge is necessary for access to a dwelling and that the bridge results in the least impact possible on the natural condition and beauty of the river. The bridge must be limited to pedestrian use

