

WISCONSIN STATE  
LEGISLATURE  
COMMITTEE HEARING  
RECORDS

2003-04

(session year)

Senate

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on  
Education, Ethics  
and Elections  
(SC-EEE)

(Form Updated: 11/20/2008)

**COMMITTEE NOTICES ...**

➤ Committee Reports ... CR

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➤ Executive Sessions ... ES

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➤ Public Hearings ... PH

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➤ Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

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**INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE  
FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL ...**

➤ Appointments ... Appt

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Name:

➤ Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule

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

**\*\*03hr\_ab0079\_SC-EEE\_pto1**

➤ Miscellaneous ... Misc

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8-6-03

Rep

①

Steve Wiedert  
266-3070

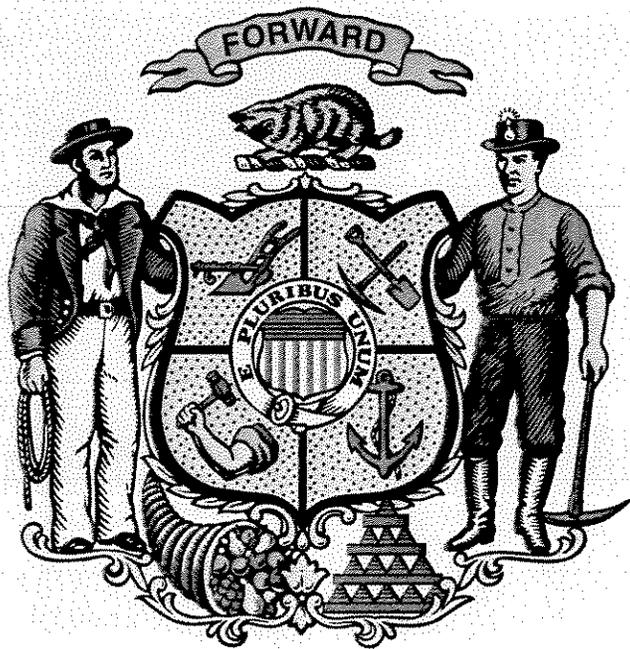
Sen.  
Education  
Ethics +  
Electors

requests hearing and/or exec  
session on ~~tech~~

AB79

tax exempt status for  
bonds for private schools  
(Fox Valley Lutheran)  
bill will kick off fed tax exemption

does AB79 need to  
go to tax exemptions?  
Already passed Assembly.



Wisconsin Health and Educational Facilities Authority  
18000 West Sarah Lane, Suite 140  
Brookfield, Wisconsin 53045-5841  
Phone (262) 792-0466 Fax (262) 792-0649

LAWRENCE R. NINES  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

September 10, 2003

Senator Michael Ellis  
and Members of the Senate  
Committee on Education, Ethics & Elections  
State Capitol  
Madison, WI

SEP 04 2003

Re: AB 79 Authorizing WHEFA to issue bonds to finance a project undertaken for a private, tax-exempt education institution.

Dear Senators,

I am sorry I cannot be with you today as you discuss AB 79, a bill which would allow the Wisconsin Health and Educational Facilities Authority (WHEFA) to issue bonds on behalf of Wisconsin's private tax-exempt K-12 educational institutions.

If I were with you, I would be speaking in favor of AB 79 as an appropriate extension of the same services WHEFA already provides to our states private colleges and universities.

Approval of this bill has no negative fiscal impact on the state.

Bonds issued by WHEFA are not exempt from state tax. There is no guarantee or moral obligation extended by either WHEFA or the State of Wisconsin. WHEFA receives no state funds for either its operations or lending programs.

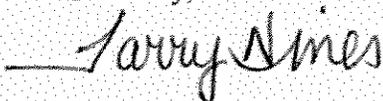
Interest paid on WHEFA bonds is exempt from federal income taxation, which results in borrowing costs that are 60 to 70 percent of conventional financing alternatives.

Expansion of eligibility to include these schools will not affect the bonding authority, caps or limits of any other state issuer.

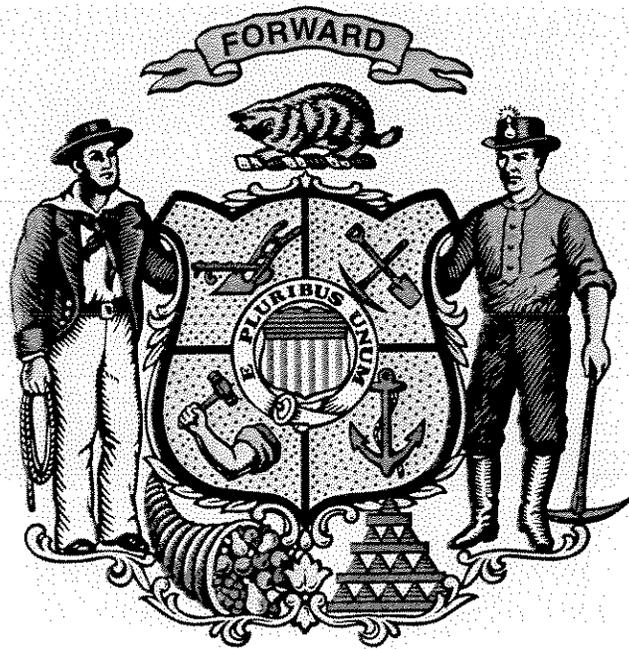
About half of our nation's states, including Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri and South Dakota now authorize a state level issuer, like WHEFA, to assist tax-exempt K-12 schools in capital project bonding in their respective jurisdictions.

If approved, the WHEFA staff (all four of us) would look forward to helping meet the capital needs of Wisconsin's K-12 tax-exempt education industry.

Sincerely,



Larry Nines  
Executive Director



SEP 10 2003

September 10, 2003

Senator Michael G. Ellis, Chair  
And Members,  
Senate Committee on Education, Ethics, and Elections

Re: Assembly Bill 79 (WHEFA Bonding Authority)

Dear Senator Ellis and Members of the Committee:

In Wisconsin we are justifiably proud of our elementary and secondary schools, both public and private. Our students' scores on the ACT college entrance test consistently rank among the highest in the country. Similarly, Wisconsin students score well above the average on the SAT math and verbal tests. This is no accident and is the result of dedicated and well-qualified teachers, motivated students and parents, and a commitment on the part of the Legislature to supporting education and its infrastructure. Up-to-date facilities and well-maintained older buildings also play a role in these academic successes.

In Assembly Bill 79 we have an opportunity to assure that private K-12 schools have access to financing through the Wisconsin Health and Educational Facilities Authority (WHEFA). The learning environment and physical plant are key to creating an atmosphere conducive to learning; a recent report highlighted the fact that in Wisconsin most of our school buildings are more than forty years old. Assembly Bill 79 will help make it possible to renovate or replace obsolete educational facilities at the lowest possible capital costs and, most important, with no expense, obligation, or risk to the State.

I would also like to remind you of the economic stimulus value of construction projects. The Department of Administration estimates that for every \$1 million the state spends on building projects, 30 jobs are generated, including 15 non-construction positions! The multiplier effect of construction is an important contributor to the State's economy.

For all of the above reasons we respectfully urge your support and endorsement of Assembly Bill 79.

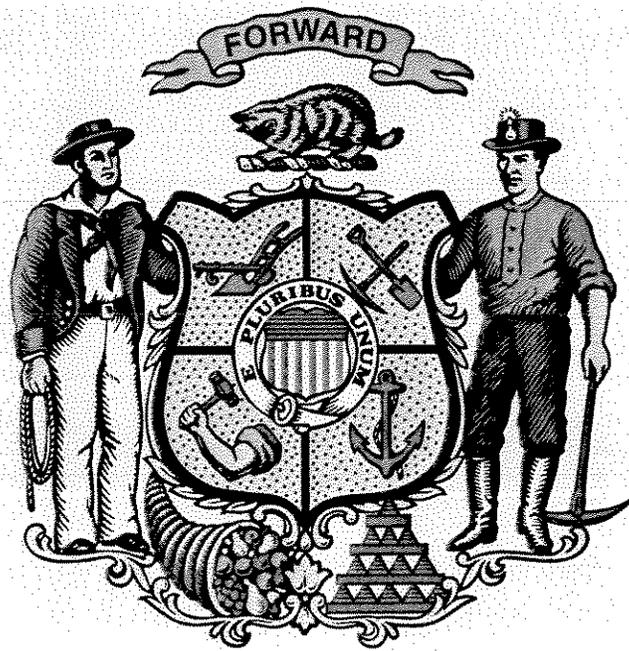
Very truly yours,



Michael Fabishak  
Executive Vice President



The Associated General Contractors of Greater Milwaukee, Inc.



Mike

Wieckert requests  
action on 20

bills AB79+AB205

Check with MGE  
to see if we will  
accomodate requests.