

Testimony of
State Representative Steve Wieckert
Regarding
SB 458 – Regional Development Opportunities
Before the
**Senate Committee on Homeland Security, Veterans and Military Affairs and
Government Reform**

Wednesday, March 3, 2004
8:00 am
400 Southeast

Chairman Brown and Committee Members,

I want to thank you for holding a hearing today on SB 458, which I believe will allow county governments to better cooperate together, which could result in eliminating duplicative services and enhancing economic development projects. I have proposed similar legislation in the Assembly, AB 901 known as "Regional Development Opportunities" and I would be happy to be added as a co-author to SB 458 as well.

SB 458 allows counties to enter into a shared revenue agreement with another county or municipality or federally recognized American Indian tribe or band, just like municipalities currently are able to do.

Municipal revenue agreements have five points:

1. Exist for a minimum of ten years
2. Have defined boundaries of the area which revenue is being shared

3. Specify the date or dates that revenue agreed to be shared are paid to the appropriate municipality.
4. Specifies how the agreement may be invalidated after the expiration of the minimum ten-year term.
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Opportunities are made available for major developments to come into Wisconsin that need 1,000 acres or more land to build a new facility, for example, the General Motor's Saturn plant, which was awarded to Tennessee in 1980.

Recently, other states have obtained major capital developments in the past two years. For example, Sony is to invest \$325 million in NY computer chip plant. (Source: AP via New Jersey Online Monday, February 02, 2004).

Also, The Financial Times – April 2, 2002 reports that Alabama wins the race for \$1billion Hyundai plant. The Hyundai Motor Company, Korea's largest carmaker, is to invest \$1bn to build a plant in Montgomery, Alabama. The plant will be the first to be built in the US by a Korean carmaker. Alabama won the contest to become the site for the new car plant over Glendale, Kentucky.

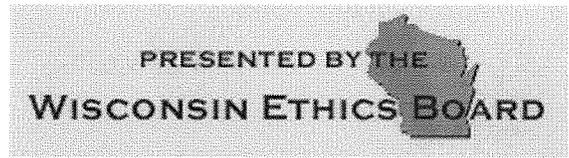
Samsung Electronics Co said on Friday it planned to spend \$500 million upgrading its sole overseas chip plant in Texas, looking to stay ahead of its rivals in the face of a prolonged slump in global chip prices- April 25, 2003 (Reuters)

Also, steel-intensive refrigerators are among the initial products of a multi-million dollar new appliance plant in Camden, S.C., operated by China-based Haier America LLC.-AP
May 29, 2000

Whirlpool decided to invest in an 185,000-sq. ft., \$12.5 million plant for its KitchenAid small appliance division in 1996 in Drake County, Ohio.

As you can see, cooperation is a necessary component of economic growth and development. Wisconsin municipalities need to be able to cooperate to remain competitive and to bring businesses and jobs to Wisconsin, and SB 901 will be essential in making this happen. I would be happy to answer any questions at this time.

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Senate Bill 458

authorizing a county to participate in a municipal revenue sharing agreement. (FE)

Organization		These organizations have reported lobbying on this proposal:	Place pointer on icon to display comments click icon to display prior comments		
Profile	Interests		Date Notified	Position	Comm
		Kenosha County	2/25/2004		
		Outagamie County Board of Supervisors	2/27/2004		

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