

STATE OF WISCONSIN Assembly Journal

Ninety-Seventh Regular Session

MONDAY, February 27, 2006

The Chief Clerk makes the following entries under the above date:

AMENDMENTS OFFERED

Assembly amendment 6 to **Assembly Bill 539** offered by Representative Townsend.

Assembly amendment 3 to **Assembly Bill 602** offered by Representative Albers.

Assembly amendment 3 to **Assembly Bill 793** offered by Representative Shilling.

Assembly substitute amendment 2 to **Assembly Bill 892** offered by Representatives Davis, Rhoades and Montgomery.

Assembly substitute amendment 1 to **Assembly Bill 958** offered by committee on **Housing**.

Assembly amendment 1 to Assembly amendment 1 to **Assembly Bill 986** offered by Representative Hundertmark.

Assembly substitute amendment 1 to **Assembly Bill 1028** offered by Representative Nerison.

Assembly substitute amendment 3 to **Senate Bill 1** offered by Representative Gundrum.

Assembly amendment 1 to **Senate Bill 226** offered by Representative Underheim.

INTRODUCTION AND REFERENCE OF PROPOSALS

Read first time and referred:

Assembly Joint Resolution 83

Relating to: the life and public service of James H. Schlender.

By Representatives Musser, Sherman, Bies, McCormick and Pettis; cosponsored by Senators Brown, Zien and Coggs.

To committee on Rules.

Assembly Bill 1061

Relating to: exempting certain cities and villages from the comprehensive planning statute known as Smart Growth.

By Representative Albers.

To committee on **Property Rights and Land** Management.

Assembly Bill 1062

Relating to: the State Public Defender reimbursement rate for private attorneys and time for the State Public Defender to make indigency determinations and assign counsel.

By Representative Kessler.

To committee on Judiciary.

Assembly Bill 1063

Relating to: notice to a victim of the right to make a statement at sentencing or disposition.

By Representative Kessler.

To committee on **Judiciary**.

Assembly Bill 1064

Relating to: the Physical Therapists Affiliated Credentialing Board.

By Representatives Moulton, Albers and Hines; cosponsored by Senator Harsdorf.

To committee on **Health**.

Assembly Bill 1065

Relating to: self-service storage late fees.

By Representatives Kreuser, Kreibich, Kerkman and Sheridan; cosponsored by Senator Wirch.

To committee on Small Business.

Assembly Bill 1066

Relating to: increasing the contract amount of a contract in which a town sanitary district commissioner may have an interest.

By Representatives Sherman, Ainsworth and Musser; cosponsored by Senator Grothman.

To committee on Urban and Local Affairs.

Assembly Bill 1067

Relating to: regulating payments and gifts by drug manufacturers and distributors and consulting agreements between certain health care providers and drug manufacturers and distributors and providing a penalty.

By Representatives Davis, Kerkman, Bies, Molepske and Gundrum; cosponsored by Senator Erpenbach. To committee on **Health**.

Assembly Bill 1068

Relating to: salaries of certain executive and administrative positions in, and the amount of nonresident tuition charged at, the University of Wisconsin System.

By Representatives Nass, Kreibich, Ziegelbauer, Suder, Owens, Kerkman, Honadel and Bies; cosponsored by Senator A. Lasee.

To committee on Colleges and Universities.

Assembly Bill 1069

Relating to: pari-mutuel wagering on intertrack races.

By Representatives Kreuser, Kerkman and Vos; cosponsored by Senators Stepp and Wirch.

To committee on State Affairs.

Assembly Bill 1070

Relating to: the Regional Transit Authority. By Representative Stone; cosponsored by Senator Stepp. To committee on **State Affairs**.

Assembly Bill 1071

Relating to: the time limit for a person under the age of 18 to bring action against a health care provider.

By Representatives Gielow, Hahn, Kerkman, Kreibich, Newcomer, Nischke, Ott, Towns and Vukmir; cosponsored by Senators S. Fitzgerald, Kedzie, Leibham and Roessler.

To committee on Insurance.

Assembly Bill 1072

Relating to: awards to persons suffering damages as the result of medical malpractice and evidence of compensation for those damages.

By Representatives Gielow, Hahn, Hundertmark, Kerkman, Kreibich, F. Lasee, Newcomer, Nischke, Ott, Towns and Vukmir; cosponsored by Senators S. Fitzgerald, Kedzie, Leibham and Roessler.

To committee on Insurance.

Assembly Bill 1073

Relating to: recovery of noneconomic damages in medical malpractice cases.

By Representatives Gielow, J. Fitzgerald, Wasserman, Ainsworth, Albers, Ballweg, Benedict, Davis, Fields, F. Lasee, Freese, Gottlieb, Gronemus, Gunderson, Hahn, Honadel, Hubler, Hundertmark, Kerkman, Krawczyk, Kreibich, LeMahieu, Loeffelholz, Lothian, McCormick, Meyer, Montgomery, Musser, Nerison, Newcomer, Nischke, Ott, Pettis, Pridemore, Shilling, Seidel, Sheridan, Stone, Strachota, Suder, Towns, Underheim, Van Roy, Vos, Vruwink, Vukmir, Ward and Ziegelbauer; cosponsored by Senators S. Fitzgerald, Brown, Cowles, Darling, Grothman, Harsdorf, Kapanke, Kedzie, A. Lasee, Leibham, Olsen, Roessler and Zien.

To committee on **Insurance**.

Assembly Bill 1074

Relating to: recovery of attorney fees in medical malpractice cases.

By Representatives Vos, Vukmir, J. Fitzgerald, Gielow, Lothian, Ainsworth, Musser, Kleefisch, Newcomer, Pridemore, Jeskewitz, Nass, Kerkman, Underheim, F. Lasee, LeMahieu, Ballweg, Owens, Kestell, Hahn and Albers; cosponsored by Senators S. Fitzgerald, A. Lasee, Reynolds, Kedzie, Roessler, Darling and Leibham.

To committee on Insurance.

Assembly Bill 1075

Relating to: creating an exemption from Public Service Commission regulation for persons who provide electricity from certain alternative energy sources.

By Representatives Wieckert, Davis, Freese, Musser, Parisi, Vos, Owens, Ott, Gundrum and Wood; cosponsored by Senator Roessler.

To committee on Energy and Utilities.

Assembly Bill 1076

Relating to: requiring the secretary of administration to contact investment companies and investment advisors to request that they establish a Wisconsin index fund, consisting of shares of publicly traded businesses incorporated, established, or headquartered in this state, and requiring the Deferred Compensation Board to make every effort to ensure that the state deferred compensation plan includes a Wisconsin index fund.

By Representatives Wieckert, Musser, Owens, Ott and Albers; cosponsored by Senators Zien and Roessler.

To committee on State Affairs.

Assembly Bill 1077

Relating to: the time period during which impact fees must be used and the refunding of impact fees.

By Representatives Lamb, Kleefisch, Rhoades, Moulton, Gundrum, Pettis, Musser, Jeskewitz, Newcomer, Albers, Ainsworth, Krawczyk, Kreibich, Wood, J. Fitzgerald, Nass, Nischke, F. Lasee, LeMahieu and Vos; cosponsored by Senators Stepp and Harsdorf.

To committee on Urban and Local Affairs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The committee on **Corrections and the Courts** reports and recommends:

Assembly Bill 1032

Relating to: payment and repayment of a 1st class city police officer's pay and benefits after suspension or discharge.

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 adoption:

Ayes: 8 – Representatives Bies, Gundrum, Underheim,

LeMahieu, Pope–Roberts, Wasserman, Seidel and Parisi. Noes: 1 – Representative Owens.

Passage as amended:

Ayes: 8 - Representatives Bies, Gundrum, Underheim,

LeMahieu, Pope–Roberts, Wasserman, Seidel and Parisi. Noes: 1 – Representative Owens. To committee on Rules.

GAREY BIES Chairperson Committee on Corrections and the Courts

The committee on **Financial Institutions** reports and recommends:

Assembly Bill 1037

Relating to: shareholders of service corporations that carry on the profession of certified public accounting; authority of the Division of Banking over loan companies and insurance premium finance companies; regulation of insurance premium finance companies, mortgage bankers, loan originators, and mortgage brokers; and requirements applicable to consumer loans secured by liens on residential real estate or mobile homes.

Passage:

Ayes: 15 – Representatives Hundertmark, Lamb, Freese, Kreibich, Wieckert, Townsend, J. Fitzgerald, Vos, Kleefisch, Richards, Sherman, Shilling, Zepnick, Molepske and Fields. Noes: 0.

To committee on **Rules**.

Assembly Bill 1038

Relating to: miscellaneous remedial modifications to the Wisconsin Probate Code.

Passage:

Ayes: 15 – Representatives Hundertmark, Lamb, Freese, Kreibich, Wieckert, Townsend, J. Fitzgerald, Vos, Kleefisch, Richards, Sherman, Shilling, Zepnick, Molepske and Fields. Noes: 0.

To committee on Rules.

Senate Bill 392

Relating to: the sale of gift certificates, gift cards, and other gift obligations and providing penalties.

Concurrence:

Ayes: 9 – Representatives Hundertmark, Lamb, Freese, Kreibich, Wieckert, Townsend, J. Fitzgerald, Vos and Kleefisch.

Noes: 6 – Representatives Richards, Sherman, Shilling, Zepnick, Molepske and Fields.

To committee on Rules.

JEAN HUNDERTMARK Chairperson Committee on Financial Institutions

The committee on Judiciary reports and recommends:

Assembly Bill 838

Relating to: voluntary intoxication as a defense to criminal liability.

Passage:

Ayes: 7 – Representatives Gundrum, McCormick, Pridemore, Kerkman, Kleefisch, Staskunas and Turner.

Noes: 0.

To committee on Rules.

Assembly Bill 966

Relating to: vehicle owner liability for violations arising from the failure to stop at the scene of an accident and providing a penalty.

Passage:

Ayes: 7 – Representatives Gundrum, McCormick, Pridemore, Kerkman, Kleefisch, Staskunas and Turner. Noes: 0.

To committee on Rules.

Assembly Bill 989

Relating to: the controlled substance ecstasy and providing penalties.

Passage:

Ayes: 7 – Representatives Gundrum, McCormick, Pridemore, Kerkman, Kleefisch, Staskunas and Turner.

Noes: 0.

To committee on Rules.

Assembly Bill 990

Relating to: deoxyribonucleic acid testing of criminals.

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 adoption:

Ayes: 7 - Representatives Gundrum, McCormick,

Pridemore, Kerkman, Kleefisch, Staskunas and Turner. Noes: 0.

Passage as amended:

Ayes: 7 – Representatives Gundrum, McCormick, Pridemore, Kerkman, Kleefisch, Staskunas and Turner.

Noes: 0.

To committee on Rules.

Senate Bill 450

Relating to: construction liens, requirements for securing payment for work on publicly financed projects, and providing a penalty.

Assembly Amendment 1 adoption:

Ayes: 7 – Representatives Gundrum, McCormick, Pridemore, Kerkman, Kleefisch, Staskunas and Turner. Noes: 0.

Concurrence as amended:

Ayes: 7 – Representatives Gundrum, McCormick, Pridemore, Kerkman, Kleefisch, Staskunas and Turner. Noes: 0.

To committee on Rules.

MARK GUNDRUM Chairperson Committee on Judiciary The committee on **Public Health** reports and recommends:

Senate Bill 405

Relating to: powers of the Pharmacy Examining Board during times of emergency or disaster.

Concurrence:

Ayes: 8 – Representatives Hines, Underheim, Townsend, Freese, McCormick, Wasserman, Grigsby and Benedict. Noes: 0.

To committee on **Rules**.

J.A. HINES Chairperson Committee on Public Health

The committee on State Affairs reports and recommends:

Assembly Bill 579

Relating to: appointment to limited term and project positions in the state civil service.

Passage:

Ayes: 9 – Representatives J. Fitzgerald, Kleefisch, Musser, Krawczyk, Petrowski, Newcomer, Toles, Young and Benedict.

Noes: 0.

To committee on Rules.

Assembly Bill 628

Relating to: the powers of tribal law enforcement officers under state law.

Passage:

Ayes: 9 – Representatives J. Fitzgerald, Kleefisch, Musser, Krawczyk, Petrowski, Newcomer, Toles, Young and Benedict.

Noes: 0.

To committee on Rules.

Assembly Bill 639

Relating to: an exemption for certain tribal officials under the lobbying law.

Passage:

Ayes: 9 – Representatives J. Fitzgerald, Kleefisch, Musser, Krawczyk, Petrowski, Newcomer, Toles, Young and Benedict.

Noes: 0.

To committee on Rules.

Assembly Bill 839

Relating to: sales and taste samples by manufacturers or rectifiers of intoxicating liquor for consumption on or off the premises where manufactured or rectified and taste samples by certain retail licensees of intoxicating liquor. Assembly Amendment 1 adoption:

Ayes: 9 – Representatives J. Fitzgerald, Kleefisch, Musser, Krawczyk, Petrowski, Newcomer, Toles, Young and Benedict.

Noes: 0.

Passage as amended:

Ayes: 9 – Representatives J. Fitzgerald, Kleefisch, Musser, Krawczyk, Petrowski, Newcomer, Toles, Young and Benedict.

Noes: 0.

To committee on Rules.

Senate Bill 297

Relating to: the powers of tribal law enforcement officers under state law.

Concurrence:

Ayes: 9 – Representatives J. Fitzgerald, Kleefisch, Musser, Krawczyk, Petrowski, Newcomer, Toles, Young and Benedict.

Noes: 0.

To committee on Rules.

JEFF FITZGERALD Chairperson Committee on State Affairs

Message from the Senate

From: Robert J. Marchant, Senate Chief Clerk.

Mr. Speaker:

I am directed to inform you that the Senate has

Adopted and asks concurrence:

Senate Joint Resolution 68

Passed and asks concurrence in:
Senate Bill 123
Senate Bill 161
Senate Bill 181
Senate Bill 208
Senate Bill 369
Senate Bill 391
Senate Bill 409
Senate Bill 425
Senate Bill 486
Senate Bill 520
Senate Bill 529
Senate Bill 536
Senate Bill 551
Senate Bill 588

ACTION ON THE SENATE MESSAGE

Senate Joint Resolution 68

Relating to: the life and service of Captain Stephen Hahn.

By Senators Brown and Zien; cosponsored by Representatives Kreibich and Moulton.

To committee on **Rules**.

Senate Bill 123

Relating to: reorganizing and revising chapter 767 of the statutes.

By Joint Legislative Council.

To committee on Family Law.

Senate Bill 161

Relating to: civil liability exemption for claims resulting from weight gain and obesity.

By Senators Reynolds, Breske, S. Fitzgerald, Harsdorf, Kanavas, Kedzie, Lazich, Leibham, Olsen, Roessler and Grothman; cosponsored by Representatives Vrakas, Ainsworth, Albers, Ballweg, J. Fitzgerald, Gard, Gronemus, Gunderson, Hahn, Hines, Honadel, Hundertmark, Jensen, Jeskewitz, Kerkman, Kestell, Kleefisch, Krawczyk, Kreibich, F. Lasee, LeMahieu, Lothian, McCormick, Montgomery, Moulton, Mursau, Musser, Nass, Nerison, Ott, Petrowski, Pettis, Strachota, Suder, Van Roy, Vos, Vukmir, M. Williams, Wood and Ziegelbauer.

To committee on Rules.

Senate Bill 181

Relating to: harassment of, causing injury to, or theft of a service dog and providing penalties.

By Senators Risser, Miller, Roessler, Lassa, Carpenter and Harsdorf; cosponsored by Representatives Berceau, Hahn, Sherman, Sheridan, M. Williams, Bies, Hines, Grigsby, Pocan, Molepske, Benedict, Ott and Gunderson.

To committee on **Rules**.

Senate Bill 208

Relating to: designating and marking USH 45 as the Wisconsin Labor Highway.

By Senators Zien, Taylor, Darling, Carpenter, Miller, Decker and Lassa; cosponsored by Representatives Colon, Hines, Sinicki, Van Akkeren, Parisi, Sheridan, Pocan, Lehman, Seidel and Molepske.

To committee on Rules.

Senate Bill 369

Relating to: requiring a court to establish a father's obligation for birth expenses.

By Senators Roessler, Brown, Darling and Lassa; cosponsored by Representatives Kestell, Gunderson, Hahn, Hines, Lehman, LeMahieu, Musser, Ott, Strachota, Van Roy and Vos.

To committee on **Rules**.

Senate Bill 391

Relating to: guardianships, conservatorships, and wards; involuntary administration of psychotropic medication; protective placements and protective services; powers of attorney for health care; durable powers of attorney; venue, residence, and county of responsibility; requiring the exercise of rule–making authority; and providing a penalty. By Senators Olsen, Miller, Roessler, Darling, Erpenbach, Risser, Harsdorf, Plale and Wirch; cosponsored by Representatives Townsend, Krusick, Kestell, Krawczyk, Hines, Gielow, Musser, Hahn, Ott, Berceau, Sherman, Seidel, Sheridan and Lehman.

To committee on Aging and Long-Term Care.

Senate Bill 409

Relating to: the definition of sexual contact and providing penalties.

By Senators Darling, Taylor, Lazich, Plale, Roessler, Lassa and A. Lasee; cosponsored by Representatives Kleefisch, Gundrum, Wasserman, Nass, Jensen, Sherman, Lothian, Grigsby, Jeskewitz, Pettis, Hines, Ainsworth, Albers, Gunderson, Musser, Strachota and Nerison.

To committee on **Judiciary**.

Senate Bill 425

Relating to: the authority of the Department of Justice and public nuisance actions.

By Senators Zien, Stepp, Lazich, Reynolds, A. Lasee, Darling, Kedzie, Brown and Grothman; cosponsored by Representatives Suder, Nischke, Pettis, Albers, Hahn, Lothian, F. Lasee, Ainsworth, Hundertmark, Ott, Hines, Ward, Owens, Krawczyk and LeMahieu.

To committee on **Judiciary**.

Senate Bill 486

Relating to: income continuation insurance errors (suggested as remedial legislation by the Department of Employee Trust Funds).

By Law Revision Committee.

To committee on **Insurance**.

Senate Bill 520

Relating to: reporting the number of hours of pupil instruction provided in public schools.

By Senators Olsen and Darling; cosponsored by Representatives Towns, Hines, Nischke, Montgomery, Ballweg, Ott, Kreibich, Hahn and Albers.

To committee on **Rules**.

Senate Bill 529

Relating to: special education programs for children with disabilities.

By Senators Olsen, Zien, Harsdorf, Darling, Grothman, Roessler, Brown, Schultz, Kapanke, A. Lasee, Stepp, Kedzie, Plale, Leibham and Cowles; cosponsored by Representatives Towns, Kestell, Hines, Newcomer, Hundertmark, Nischke, Pettis, Ott, Mursau, Ballweg, Kerkman, Lamb, Gronemus, Strachota, Lothian, Hahn, Bies, Musser, Petrowski, Ainsworth, Freese, Rhoades, Moulton, Wood, Suder, LeMahieu, Honadel and McCormick.

To committee on Rules.

Senate Bill 536

Relating to: eliminate transitional halfway house building authority.

By Senators Lazich, Darling and Plale; cosponsored by Representatives Stone, Gundrum, Nass, Strachota, Suder and Honadel.

To committee on **Rules**.

Senate Bill 551

Relating to: creating an exemption for certain wetlands for the construction of a structure located in the town of Franklin, Kewaunee County.

By Senators A. Lasee, Stepp, Brown, Kanavas, Zien, Darling, S. Fitzgerald and Reynolds; cosponsored by Representatives Bies, F. Lasee, Pettis, Petrowski, M. Williams, Loeffelholz, Wood, Lothian, Townsend, Hahn, Ballweg, Hines, Musser, Montgomery, Nischke, Hundertmark, Newcomer, Kleefisch, Vos, Pridemore, Jensen, Moulton, LeMahieu, Honadel, Gielow, Ainsworth, Jeskewitz, Nerison, Ott, Kestell, Gunderson and Krawczyk.

To committee on Natural Resources.

Senate Bill 588

Relating to: retaliatory conduct by public officers and employees, administration and enforcement of codes of ethics, information for applicants for approvals issued by the Department of Natural Resources, and information for applicants for permits issued by a city, village, town, or county.

By Senators Stepp, A. Lasee and Zien; cosponsored by Representatives Friske, Petrowski, Bies, Vos, McCormick, Musser, Jeskewitz, Albers, Wood and Mursau.

To committee on Natural Resources.

ENROLLED BILLS

The following Assembly proposals, which have been approved by both the Assembly and Senate, have been enrolled by the Legislative Reference Bureau:

Assembly Bill 29 Assembly Bill 36 Assembly Bill 299 Assembly Bill 511 Assembly Bill 615 Assembly Bill 727 Assembly Bill 823

> PATRICK E. FULLER Assembly Chief Clerk

CHIEF CLERK REPORTS

The Chief Clerk records:

Assembly Bill 775

Presented to the Governor on Friday, February 24.

PATRICK E. FULLER Assembly Chief Clerk

SPEAKER'S COMMUNICATIONS

February 21, 2006

Patrick Fuller Assembly Chief Clerk 17 West Main Street, Suite 208 Madison, WI 53708

Dear Pat:

Please note that Senator Schultz and I have created the **Road** to the Future Committee to review the State's Transportation needs. The Committee will explore and identify savings and revenue opportunities to keep the state's transportation infrastructure strong.

We have appointed Senator Dan Kapanke and Representative Mark Gottlieb to chair the Committee. In addition, we have appointed the following members to serve on the Committee:

Sen. Scott FitzgeraldRep. Jeff StoneSen. David ZienRep. Don FriskeSen. Glenn GrothmanRep. Dean KaufertSen. Russ DeckerRep. Josh ZepnickSen. Robert WirchRep. Mike Sheridan

The Committee has been directed to take testimony, produce interim reports and deliver a final report by December 15, 2006. The Committee was given latitude to have hearings outside Madison if it desired. The Legislative Fiscal Bureau will help staff the Committee and draft the reports. Thank you for your help.

> Sincerely, JOHN G. GARD Speaker of the Assembly

> > February 24, 2006

Patrick Fuller Assembly Chief Clerk 17 West Main Street, Suite 208 Madison, WI 53708

Dear Diane:

Representative Jensen will not be attending the Joint Finance hearing on Monday, February 27, 2006. In his absence, Representative Gregg Underheim (R–54) will take his place on the Committee.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely, JOHN G. GARD Speaker of the Assembly

COMMUNICATIONS

February 22, 2006

Patrick Fuller Assembly Chief Clerk 17 West Main Street, Suite 208 Madison, WI 53708

Dear Chief Clerk Fuller:

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to place into the official Assembly Journal the following information on how I would have voted on February 2, 2006 had I been in my chair:

Senate Bill 525 "Nay" Assembly Bill 268 "Nay" Assembly Bill 857 "Nay"

Please let me know if you need further information.

Yours sincerely, FREDERICK P. KESSLER State Representative 12th Assembly District

February 22, 2006

Patrick Fuller Assembly Chief Clerk 17 West Main Street, Suite 208 Madison, WI 53708

Dear Mr. Fuller:

Please add my name as a co-sponsor of Assembly Bill 981. Thank you.

Sincerely, JERRY PETROWSKI State Representative 86th Assembly District

February 23, 2006

Patrick Fuller Assembly Chief Clerk 17 West Main Street, Suite 208 Madison, WI 53708

Dear Mr. Fuller:

Due to my leave from session on February 23, 2006, I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of how I would have voted. Please include this information in the Assembly Journal.

I would have voted "aye" on passage of the following bills: Assembly Bill 284 Assembly Bill 382 Assembly Bill 708 Assembly Bill 969 Assembly Bill 1010 Assembly Bill 1012

Thank you for your time and attention in this matter. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely, *THOMAS A. LOTHIAN* State Representative 32nd Assembly District

February 24, 2006

Patrick Fuller Assembly Chief Clerk 17 West Main Street, Suite 208 Madison, WI 53708

Dear Mr. Fuller:

Please add my name as a co-sponsor of Assembly Bill 1030, Assembly Bill 1050 and Assembly Bill 1060.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely yours, SHERYL K. ALBERS State Representative 50th Assembly District

February 27, 2006

Patrick Fuller Assembly Chief Clerk 17 West Main Street, Suite 208 Madison, WI 53708

Dear Mr. Fuller:

Please add my name as a co-sponsor of Assembly Bill 1067. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely yours, SHERYL K. ALBERS State Representative 50th Assembly District

REFERRAL OF AGENCY REPORTS

State of Wisconsin WHA Information Center Madison

February 20, 2006

To the Honorable, the Legislature:

Enclosed is a copy of the 2004 Wisconsin Inpatient Hospital Quality Indicators Report produced by WHA Information Center pursuant to s.153.22, Wis. Stats. The report has been available on our Web site since December 2005. Please feel free to download and print additional copies. If you have any questions regarding the report you may contact me at 608-274-1820, 800-231-8340 or jkachelski@wha.org.

Sincerely, JOSEPH KACHELSKI Vice President

Referred to committee on Health.

AGENCY REPORTS

State of Wisconsin Legislative Audit Bureau Madison

February 23, 2006

To the Honorable, the Assembly:

We have completed a review of the Environmental Cooperation Pilot Program (ECPP). The program is administered by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and was established by 1997 Wisconsin Act 27 to test innovative environmental regulatory methods. Statutes require the Legislative Audit Bureau to monitor ECPP and report annually to the Legislature on our findings.

DNR manages seven agreements with six companies. We have reviewed the terms of the agreements and DNR's administration of them and make several recommendations to ensure adequate public involvement in ECPP and comprehensive performance measures for quantifying its economic and environmental effects.

Addressing the need for effective performance measures is important given that the initial five-year ECPP agreements will expire in 2006 and 2007. DNR anticipates renewing all seven agreements for a second five-year period, and performance information will help DNR ensure the agreements are structured to promote program success.

We appreciate the courtesy and cooperation extended to us by DNR and the ECPP companies we contacted during our review.

> Sincerely, JANICE MUELLER State Auditor