

05hr_AC-Fo_ab1042_pt01



(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ... PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS

2005-06

(session year)

Assembly

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on Forestry...

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

- Committee Reports ... **CR**
- Executive Sessions ... **ES**
- Public Hearings ... **PH**

INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

- Appointments ... **Appt** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Clearinghouse Rules ... **CRule** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Hearing Records ... bills and resolutions (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
(**ab** = Assembly Bill) (**ar** = Assembly Resolution) (**ajr** = Assembly Joint Resolution)
(**sb** = Senate Bill) (**sr** = Senate Resolution) (**sjr** = Senate Joint Resolution)
- Miscellaneous ... **Misc**

* Contents organized for archiving by: Stefanie Rose (LRB) (July 2013)

Assembly

Record of Committee Proceedings

Committee on Forestry

Assembly Bill 1042

Relating to: grants for catastrophic damage caused to urban forests.

By Representatives M. Williams, Musser, Hahn, Ainsworth, Lehman, Krawczyk, Albers, Vos, Van Roy, Gunderson and Gronemus; cosponsored by Senators Kapanke, A. Lasee and Harsdorf.

February 20, 2006 Referred to Committee on Forestry.

March 14, 2006 **PUBLIC HEARING HELD**

Present: (5) Representatives Friske, Mursau, Ainsworth, M. Williams and Hubler.
Absent: (1) Representative Boyle.

Appearances For

- Mary Williams, Madison — Representative, 87th Assembly District
- Dick Rideout, Madison — Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Appearances Against

- None.

Appearances for Information Only

- None.

Registrations For

- None.

Registrations Against

- None.

April 11, 2006

EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD

Present: (4) Representatives Friske, Ainsworth, M. Williams and Hubler.
Absent: (2) Representatives Mursau and Boyle.

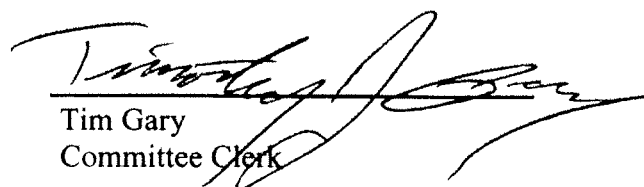
Moved by Representative Hubler, seconded by Representative M. Williams that **Assembly Bill 1042** be recommended for passage.

Ayes: (4) Representatives Friske, Ainsworth, M.
Williams and Hubler.

Noes: (0) None.

Absent: (2) Representatives Mursau and Boyle.

PASSAGE RECOMMENDED, Ayes 4, Noes 0



Tim Gary
Committee Clerk

Vote Record Committee on Forestry

Date: 4-11-06

Moved by: Hubler Seconded by: Williams

AB 1042 SB _____ Clearinghouse Rule _____
 AJR _____ SJR _____ Appointment _____
 AR _____ SR _____ Other _____

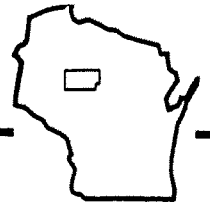
A/S Amdt _____
 A/S Amdt _____ to A/S Amdt _____
 A/S Sub Amdt _____
 A/S Amdt _____ to A/S Sub Amdt _____
 A/S Amdt _____ to A/S Amdt _____ to A/S Sub Amdt _____

- Be recommended for:
- | | | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Passage | <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption | <input type="checkbox"/> Confirmation | <input type="checkbox"/> Concurrence | <input type="checkbox"/> Indefinite Postponement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Introduction | <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection | <input type="checkbox"/> Tabling | <input type="checkbox"/> Nonconcurrence | |

<u>Committee Member</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Not Voting</u>
Representative Donald Friske, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Jeffrey Mursau	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative John Ainsworth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Mary Williams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Mary Hubler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Frank Boyle	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals:	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u> </u>

Motion Carried Motion Failed





COUNTY BOARD OFFICE

JIM METZ, Chair
715-748-1404

County Board Office Administrator
MARIE KOERNER 715-748-1403
mkoerner@co.taylor.wi.us

County Board Administrative Assistant
LINDA DANIELS 715-748-1400
linda.daniels@co.taylor.wi.us

February 10, 2006

Representative Mary Williams
Room 18 West, State Capitol
Madison, WI 53708-8953

Dear Representative Williams:

Please find the enclosed resolution which was adopted by the Taylor County Board of Supervisors at the February 9, 2006 Session. We would appreciate your support on this important matter.

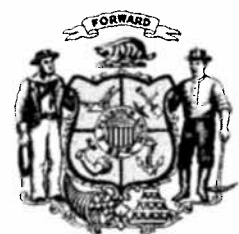
Sincerely,

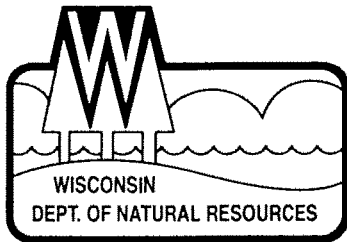
Jim Metz, Chair
Taylor County Board of Supervisors

Enclosure



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE





State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Jim Doyle, Governor
Scott Hassett, Secretary

101 S. Webster St.
Box 7921
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7921
Telephone 608-266-2621
FAX 608-267-3579
TTY Access via relay - 711

Assembly Bill 1042

Assembly Committee on Forestry

Department of Natural Resources Testimony
Richard Rideout, State Urban Forestry Coordinator
Division of Forestry
March 14, 2006

Mr. Chairman and Committee Members:

Good morning. My name is Dick Rideout and I am the State Urban Forestry Coordinator with the Bureau of Forest Management in the Department of Natural Resources' Division of Forestry. I appreciate this opportunity to appear before you to discuss AB 1042.

The Department of Natural Resources strongly supports AB 1042. The bill allows the Department to react quickly and provide financial grant assistance to communities who have experienced extensive damage to their urban trees due to a major storm event, but would be ineligible for FEMA assistance under current rules. Since 1990 there have been 14 natural disasters that caused significant damage to thousand of trees in the urban areas of Wisconsin. In recent years, major storms have devastated urban trees in Ladysmith, Stoughton, Viola, Siren and the Fox cities.

The bill will allow for a more flexible application timeline for storm damage assistance grants than is currently required for other urban forestry grants. It will also eliminate the 50 percent local cost-share requirement. The removal of the cost-share requirement for these specific grants will reduce the paperwork required by the recipient and ease the strain on local budgets during a time of emergency.

The department will continue to use its authority and expertise to monitor grant projects, assuring funds are used specifically for storm related tree restoration, tree removal and/or replacement. If this legislation becomes law, the Department will promulgate the required changes to the Administrative Rules for the urban forestry grant program.

The Department urges this Committee to support AB 1042.

I appreciate this opportunity to express the Department's support for AB 1042 and would be glad to answer any questions you might have.



MARY WILLIAMS

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 87TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Committees: Rural Development (Chair) · Forestry · Natural Resources
Agriculture · Small Business · Rural Affairs & Renewable Energy



March 14, 2006

Mr. Chair, Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill, AB 1042.

This piece of legislation was originally brought to me on behalf of staff within the division of Urban and Community Forestry of the DNR. They are the ones within the department that actually work with providing aid for these instances. After experiencing recent storms in Ladysmith and Siren, they felt constricted by the bureaucratic process the state statutes currently say they must go through before they are able to provide assistance to communities that have been hit by a catastrophic storm event.

This bill will help us provide real relief and help to those communities that are affected by a catastrophic storm and it will allow that help to come sooner, rather than later. It also cuts through the bureaucratic red tape that hinders the current aid process.

As some of you may remember, on Labor Day of 2002, a tornado ripped through the community of Ladysmith in my district. Damages were estimated at over \$20 million. Part of this was damage to trees, many of which were blown over, splintered, or even completely uprooted as a result of the tornado.

Under our current system, when communities such as Ladysmith are affected by a catastrophic storm, they have to apply for a DNR urban forestry grant to repair and replace their trees during the established grant cycle. Applications are due October 1st and are awarded in late December of that year. If a community is hit in late fall or winter, they have a long wait for aid. Also, they already have to use so much of their resources to restore critical infrastructure that they do not always have enough left to provide the required 50 % matching funds needed for the grant.

This bill will provide prompt relief for those instances where trees in urban areas like Ladysmith are damaged as a result of a catastrophic storm event. It will do so without increasing yearly state costs. Restoring the beauty of these areas in a timely manner can be invaluable to the process of getting the community back on its feet. I would like to thank Mr. Kissinger, Mr. Rideout, and everyone else within the Department of Natural Resources that helped put this together. I hope you members of the committee will give it your full support.

Thank you.

Representative Mary Williams



**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PASSAGE OF
FOREST EMERGENCY RECOVERY AND RESEARCH ACT**

WHEREAS, the number and severity of catastrophic events such as wildfire and windstorm causing severe resource damage on forest and rangelands has increased in recent decades, causing serious adverse environmental, social and economic consequences to both national and local interests; and

WHEREAS, catastrophic events devastate ecosystems, severely compromising their capacity to recover, delaying reestablishment of appropriate forest and plant cover, increasing the susceptibility of the lands to repeated wildfires and invasions of noxious plant species, increasing the frequency and severity of insect infestations and disease outbreaks on adjacent public and private lands, and causing increased erosion and degradation of riparian plant and wildlife habitats and water quality for human consumption; and

WHEREAS, authorities currently available to the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior to respond to catastrophic events on lands under their jurisdictions do not provide for timely and effective response activities, with currently required review processes frequently resulting in delays beyond the window of opportunity available for effective recovery plan implementation; and

WHEREAS, the Forest Emergency Recovery and Research Act ("FERRA") would provide authority for timely and effective responses to catastrophic events, allowing the land management agencies to rapidly respond to the unique characteristics of each event and the particular needs of each locale, allowing for the use of damaged trees and other resources before they lose all economic value, while restoring ecosystems to a naturally functioning state; and

WHEREAS, expedited procedures under FERRA would be limited to catastrophic events over 1,000 acres, providing for prompt evaluation of damage and risk assessments for federal and adjacent non-federal lands, interdisciplinary scientific review, public notice and full participation in the development of recovery plans, and access to speedy appeals and litigation if there are disagreements; and

WHEREAS, increased scientific research on the means and methods for best recovering ecosystems damaged by catastrophic events is needed, and FERRA provides for such research, including monitoring of restoration projects, partnerships with colleges and universities, and increased emphasis