

WISCONSIN STATE  
LEGISLATURE  
COMMITTEE HEARING  
RECORDS

2005-06

(session year)

Assembly

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on  
Housing  
(AC-Ho)

File Naming Example:

Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

- > 05hr\_AC-Ed\_RCP\_pt01a
- > 05hr\_AC-Ed\_RCP\_pt01b
- > 05hr\_AC-Ed\_RCP\_pt02

*Published Documents*

> Committee Hearings ... CH (Public Hearing Announcements)

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> Committee Reports ... CR

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> Executive Sessions ... ES

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> Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

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*Information Collected For Or  
Against Proposal*

> Appointments ... Appt

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> Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule

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

> **05hr\_sb0524\_AC-Ho\_pt01**

> Miscellaneous ... Misc

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State Senator

*Cathy Stepp*

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WISCONSIN'S 21ST DISTRICT

Testimony Before the Assembly Committee on Housing  
Senate Bill 524 – Building Inspector Review Board - Thursday, April 6, 2006

OVERVIEW:

- SB 524 creates a Building Inspector Review Board under the Department of Commerce.
- This bill requires the board to review complaints about incompetent, negligent or unethical conduct by building inspectors. The bill authorizes the review board to revoke the certification of bad building inspectors and allows the board to reverse or modify wrong decisions made by building inspectors.
- Building inspectors that overstep their authority or are unnecessarily slow can derail progress on important economic development projects.
- SB 524 will create accountability among building inspectors and make sure job creation efforts proceed without unnecessary delays.
- SB 524 received a unanimous 7-0 in the Senate Committee on Housing & Financial Institutions and passed on a voice vote on the Senate floor.

DETAILS:

- The bill requires the board to review complaints made concerning possible incompetent, negligent, or unethical conduct by building inspectors who inspect public buildings, places of employment, or one-family and two-family dwellings.
- The bill also sets forth a process by which a holder of a building permit may make an anonymous complaint to the review board concerning an inspector. Permittees sometimes want to be anonymous because they may need to work again with a building inspector who has done them wrong. If the board gets three anonymous complaints against an inspector, the board can investigate and the permittees lose their anonymity. The bill will not cause building inspectors to lose their jobs because of anonymous complainers.
- The review board membership consists of a building inspector certified by Commerce, a representative of building contractors and building developers, the secretary of commerce, the senate majority leader, and the speaker of the assembly. The secretary, majority leader, and speaker may appoint designees to the review board. The other two members are appointed by the governor.