

☛ **05hr_JC-Au_Misc_pt41**



☛ Details: Audit requests, 2006

(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ... PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS

2005-06

(session year)

Joint

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on Audit...

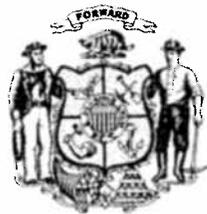
COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

- 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**

MAR 17 2006



Wisconsin State Legislature

March 16, 2006

Senator Carol A. Roessler and
Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz, Co-chairpersons
Joint Legislative Audit Committee
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Dear Senator Roessler and Representative Jeskewitz:

We are writing to request an audit of the Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) efforts to address chronic wasting disease (CWD). Since CWD was first identified in Wisconsin in February 2002, the DNR has spent millions to combat the disease, but apparently has little to show for its efforts.

Despite the growing amounts invested to combat CWD, the disease continues to spread. In addition, I am concerned that DNR's focus on CWD has come at the expense of other fish and wildlife programs. Citizens who fund these efforts through their hunting and fishing fees need an accounting of all expenditures and work effort being devoted to CWD, including the specific activities and goods involved. In addition, an independent assessment is needed of whether DNR's efforts to eradicate the disease are working.

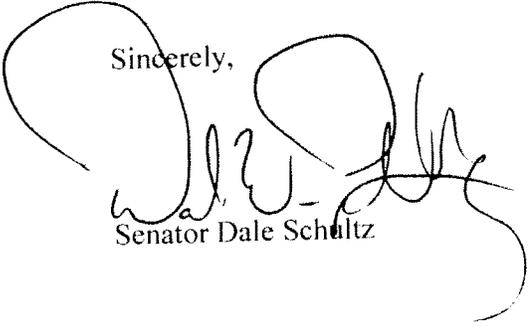
We respectfully request that an audit of the DNR's efforts include:

- a detailed accounting of all expenditures associated with CWD, including administrative costs, staffing costs, and supplies and services;
- an analysis of whether appropriate goals have been established for eradicating or preventing the spread of disease;
- an assessment of the effect CWD has had on other fish and wildlife projects;
- an analysis of the expenditures of other agencies involved in addressing CWD; and
- a determination of whether DNR has a reasonable and cost-effective plan for dealing with CWD in the future.

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. Box 7882 ■ Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7882

I believe these are important questions that need to be addressed. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



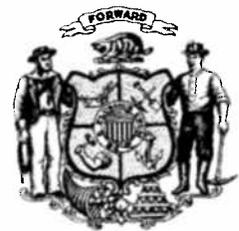
Senator Dale Schultz



Representative Stephen Freese



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



MAR 24 2006

WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P. O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882



March 24, 2006

Senator Carol Roessler
Co-Chair, Jt. Audit Committee
State Capitol, Room 8-South

Representative Sue Jeskewitz
Co-Chair, Jt. Audit Committee
State Capitol, Room 314-N

Dear Co-Chairs,

We are writing with concern over the Department of Health and Family Service's short-term objective of assisting county-operated and private Integrated Care Facilities for the Mentally Retarded (ICFs/MR) to downsize or close. We are requesting that the Legislative Audit Bureau compare the cost of caring for patients with similar needs in an ICF/MR and a community care setting while taking into account the welfare of those patients in each setting.

While community integration is certainly the best choice for many developmentally disabled individuals, we are concerned that some of the most vulnerable people in our state are not suited to move into a community setting.

As you are aware, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel recently published a series of articles highlighting the neglect of mentally ill patients in Milwaukee. These articles brought to light important issues that are currently being addressed by policymakers on both the local and state level. These issues include requiring building inspectors to close down group homes with many violations and prohibiting psychiatric case managers from placing their clients in unsafe and unregulated homes. While these initiatives are important, we believe policymakers need to take a closer look at the impact that a policy to phase out ICFs/MR will have on both developmentally and mentally disabled individuals and state revenues.

A study published by the Journal of Data Science demonstrated an increase in mortality rates of approximately 2,000 children and adults that were transferred from institutions in California to community care settings. The study used data on 1,878 children and adults in the mid 1990's and found a 47% increase in deaths for individuals living in community care settings as opposed to those in institutionalized settings. The Journal found that those deaths were most likely attributed to a lack of continuity of care, centralized record keeping and immediate access to medical care. These services are all provided in an ICF/MR. This study is concerning to us at a time when Wisconsin's mentally disabled population is undergoing a transition to community care settings that have not been studied in depth.

While community care is a viable and healthy choice for many developmentally and mentally disabled people in Wisconsin, we are concerned that the current policy does not adequately weigh costs, benefits, risks and liabilities against the need for budget cuts and expediency. Monetary costs should certainly be a factor when making policy, but they cannot be the sole deciding factor when we are affecting the welfare of one of our most vulnerable populations. Completely removing ICFs/MR from Wisconsin may mean that the most appropriate model of care for certain patients will be unavailable.

Thank you for your attention to this request. If you have any questions, or concerns, please feel free to contact us at any time.

Sincerely,

Julie Lassa
State Senator
24th Senate District

Luther Olsen
State Senator
14th Senate District

Cc: Members of the Jt. Legislative Audit Committee



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Original Story URL:

<http://www.jsonline.com/story/index.aspx?id=413899>

State senate panel promises help

Agencies to make recommendations on care, housing

By MEG KISSINGER
mkissinger@journalsentinel.com

Posted: April 6, 2006

State Senate committee members promised Thursday to present recommendations to Gov. Jim Doyle and the state Legislature to improve conditions for hundreds of people in Milwaukee County with severe mental illness who are living in dangerous and wretched conditions.

Advertisement "We are on this," said state Sen. Carol Roessler (R-Oshkosh), chairwoman of the Committee on Health, Children, Families, Aging and Long-term Care.

She ordered representatives of the state Bureau of Quality Assurance and the Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division to submit recommendations before the committee takes up the matter again in three months.

"Let us know what we need to do to help you," she said. "No one should be living in these kinds of places."

The hearing by the state Senate committee was called in response to a series of articles last month in the Journal Sentinel. The newspaper found that hundreds of people in Milwaukee County with severe mental illness are living in dangerous and sometimes deadly conditions, places with rats, roaches, broken toilets, no heat, broken smoke detectors and structural defects where some landlords serve moldy or stale food.

Mental health care administrators and advocates attending Thursday's four-hour hearing seemed relieved and heartened by the committee's willingness to pursue the matter.

"We need help from this body," said Jim Hill, director of the county's Behavioral Health Division. "We need someone to relieve the huge financial burden."

After the meeting, Hill said he was encouraged by the tone of the hearing, which seemed to be fixed on solutions, not assigning blame.

"This is a good start," he said.

Earlier, committee members were told that Milwaukee County mental health care workers are in violation of a court decree to not release people from psychiatric care to places that aren't clean and safe.

Multiple system failures

"There are multiple system failures here," said Shirin Cabraal, managing attorney for the Milwaukee office of Disability Rights Wisconsin, an advocacy group that sued the county in 1992 for violating laws that protected people with mental illness.

"The county promised not to do this in the consent decree to settle the suit," Cabraal said. "It didn't happen the way it was supposed to. City building inspectors have dropped the ball. County case managers failed to vigorously protest conditions that they knew were not right. The state Bureau of Quality Assurance has not followed up as it should on complaints of illegal group homes."

Cabraal's testimony drew a heated response from Hill, the Milwaukee administrator.

"We are in compliance with the court decree to the best of our ability," Hill said. "I guarantee you that we are not flaunting that decree."

Milwaukee County provides \$6.2 million a year for housing subsidies for people with mental illness, making it the No. 1 source for housing for that group of people.

Still, Hill said, "Despite our substantial fiscal commitment, there is no denying the fact that we don't reach everyone who needs and could benefit from the services we provide. That failure is in part the result of a shortage of resources across the continuum of care, but especially in decent, affordable housing for low-income individuals."

State Sen. Alberta Darling (R-River Hills), who called for the hearing, said she sensed a lack of coordination among government agencies in getting people the help that they need.

"This is a fragmented system with gaps in coverage," Darling said. "Too many people are falling through the net. It seems to me that no one body or institution has made this a top priority."

All of the 12 people who testified on Thursday told committee members that Milwaukee County desperately needs more affordable housing, particularly supervised apartments and group homes for people with mental illness who cannot live on their own.

"I have a guy who started his apartment on fire a while ago," said Rich Brzeski, a nurse with the county's Behavioral Health Division for the past 18 years. "I have no idea how I can find him a place to live."

Brzeski said he found one of his clients who had been dead for two days of a perforated bowel, lying on the floor of the man's apartment. The man never should have lived alone, Brzeski said.

Hill told committee members that the "core question in the community debate is: 'Does the mental commitment law adequately balance the public interest in the safety and welfare of the individual with the rights of that individual to be free of government's coercive interference?' This is a controversial question, and there is no unanimity of opinion on its answer. But it needs to be thoughtfully discussed."

A push for more funding

Roessler ordered representatives from the state Bureau of Quality Assurance to look into ways of getting more federal funding and state dollars for housing for people with mental illness whose only income is from disability payments.

"If the Social Security Administration recognizes these illnesses as grounds for disability, why can't they get the support services that they need with remedies like housing waivers?" Roessler asked.

"Use these newspaper articles to appeal to the federal government," she said.

The committee will take up the matter again in July.

From the April 7, 2006 editions of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
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July 12

HC comm

Asbjornson, Karen

From: Asbjornson, Karen
Sent: Thursday, June 01, 2006 3:41 PM
To: Matthews, Pam; Shannon, Pam; Chrisman, James
Subject: Re: Olsen-Lassa audit request

Hi All,

I just called both Senator Lassa and Senator Olsen about their Integrated Care Facilities for the Mentally Retarded (ICFs/MR) and let them know that we had received the request, we have numerous audits underway, and that this request is in the "pending" status with the Co-Chairs of Audit. I had a good conversation with both offices. I let them know about Carol's Health hearing that will likely be held in July on the housing problem for mentally ill in Milwaukee...not exactly what they wanted but in the same arena as their request. Senator Olsen's office told me that the request for the audit came from one of Senator Lassa's constituents that operates a business in Senator Olsen's district.

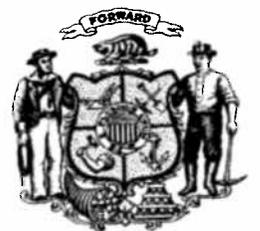
I did the phone calling rather than the letter because I could get to it quicker and felt I should do the "personal touch" since acknowledgement was so tardy.

Thanks!

Karen Asbjornson
Office of Senator Roessler
1-888-736-8720/608-266-5300
Karen.Asbjornson@legis.state.wi.us



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE





State Senator

Cathy Stepp

WISCONSIN'S 21ST DISTRICT

April 11, 2006

Senator Carol Roessler, Co-Chair
Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Audit
Madison, WI 53707

HAND-DELIVERED

Dear Senator Roessler and Representative Jeskewitz:

As you may have heard, the Racine Unified School District (RUSD) voted last night to put a \$6.45 million operating levy referendum to the voters on June 6th. This one-year referendum is similar to previous referenda RUSD has sought in the past. For several reasons I will expand upon, I am requesting that the Joint Committee on Audit direct the Audit Bureau to conduct a review of RUSD's finances.

I believe an audit by the nonpartisan Audit Bureau is necessary to determine the root causes of RUSD's systemic budget shortfalls. This audit may help bring credibility to the district's claims and also give taxpayers some real answers on where all their money is being spent. I would like the Audit Bureau to determine how many cents on the dollars go toward teacher salaries and benefits, retiree pensions, buildings and maintenance, special education, energy costs, textbooks and related teaching supplies and any other significant costs. I would also like the Audit Bureau to compare RUSD's budget and costs to those of its peer districts.

I am aware that the Audit Committee rarely approves audits of local government agencies, preferring to review statewide or regional matters instead. I believe the Audit Bureau's time would be well-served studying RUSD. It is one of the biggest school districts in the state and perhaps an audit of RUSD could reveal ways school districts statewide can find efficiencies.

Thank you for considering my request. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss my request further.

Sincerely,

Cathy Stepp
State Senator
21st Senate District

Stepp calls for audit of Unified

By Brent Killackey

State Sen. Cathy Stepp has asked the Legislative Audit Committee to audit the Racine Unified School District.

"I believe an audit by the nonpartisan Audit Bureau, which has no ties to the community or any vested interest in coming to any particular conclusions, is necessary to determine the root causes of RUSD's systemic budget shortfalls," Stepp, R-Yorkville, said Thursday in a news release. "This audit may help bring credibility to the district's claims and also give taxpayers some real answers on where all their money is being spent."

In her letter to the Audit Committee dated April 11, Stepp requested the potential review of RUSD to determine how many cents on the dollar goes toward teacher salaries and benefits, retiree pensions, buildings and maintenance, special education, energy costs, textbooks and related teaching supplies and any other significant costs. She also requested these costs be compared to peer school

districts.

"I especially want the Audit Bureau to investigate the true current and future costs of retiree benefits," Stepp said. "I want to stress that I have no interest in trying to take away existing retiree benefits. However, reasonable-sounding promises made today may be financially-backbreaking tomorrow. I think teaching professionals and taxpayers alike need to know what RUSD can sustain in the years to come."

The news release said the district's decision to bring forward another \$6.45 million operating levy referendum and a rumored agreement on a new teachers' contract has sparked renewed interest among constituents about the district's finances.

Stepp's letter to the committee hints that her request faces an uphill battle. "I am aware that the Audit Committee rarely approves audits of local government agencies, preferring to review statewide or regional matters instead," she said.

But she said the audit bureau's time would be well-served studying RUSD.

"It is one of the biggest school districts in the state and perhaps an audit of RUSD could reveal ways school districts statewide can find efficiencies," Stepp said.

A district official reacted to Stepp's request with disappointment.

"We are very disappointed in this action by Senator Stepp who is well-aware that we have an annual audit which is held in compliance with State of Wisconsin standards and that our budget is printed annually and is available to anyone who requests a copy," said Linda Flashinski, Unified's director of communication and public information.

Flashinski added that Stepp is also aware that the district has worked with the Independent Commission

and is in the process of implementing its recommendations regarding finances and operations.

RUSD had an actuarial study done on all future and current costs of retiree benefits in order to comply with General Accounting Standards Board Pronouncement No. 45.

"Finally, Senator Stepp is very aware that the reason that the district must continue to go to referendum year after year is that for 12 years we have been placed by the State of Wisconsin under revenue caps which do not keep pace with the increasing costs of education," Flashinski said. "During that time, the district has cut over \$41 million dollars from our budget in this district which serves such a diversity of students including many low-income and high needs students."

"Sen. Stepp represents Racine Unified as well as her other constituencies, and school district officials would be more than pleased to meet with her to explain how state of Wisconsin funding has been so detrimental to the diverse students we serve," Flashinski said.



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE

Joint Legislative Audit Committee

Committee Co-Chairs:
State Senator Carol Roessler
State Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz

April 26, 2006

Senator Cathy Stepp
7 South, State Capitol
Madison, Wisconsin 53702

Dear Senator Stepp:

Thank you for your letter, dated April 11, 2006, in which you request the Joint Legislative Audit Committee to direct the Legislative Audit Bureau to conduct an audit of the Racine Unified School District.

As you know, s. 13.94 (1)(m), Wis. Stats., does allow the Legislative Audit Bureau to audit the records of any county, city, village, town or school district at the direction of the Joint Legislative Audit Committee. However, the Committee may not direct more than three such audits in any calendar year. Past committees have rarely exercised this option to authorize audits of local units of government.

While we are sympathetic to the serious concerns you raise about financial issues within the school district, we are reluctant to divert the resources and focus of the Legislative Audit Bureau away from the operations of state government to local government. The core responsibility of the Legislative Audit Bureau is to conduct financial and program evaluation audits of state government. Therefore, we have chosen not to advance your request for an audit of the Racine Unified School District at this time.

Thank you for your letter. Please contact us with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

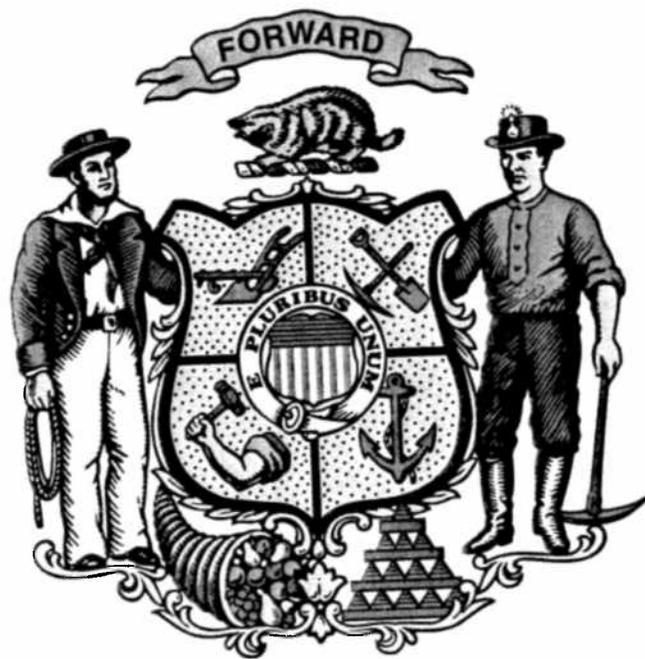
Senator Carol A. Roessler, Co-chair
Joint Legislative Audit Committee

Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz, Co-chair
Joint Legislative Audit Committee

cc: Janice Mueller
State Auditor

SENATOR ROESSLER
P.O. Box 7882 • Madison, WI 53707-7882
(608) 266-5300 • Fax (608) 266-0423

REPRESENTATIVE JESKEWITZ
P.O. Box 8952 • Madison, WI 53708-8952
(608) 266-3796 • Fax (608) 282-3624





MAY 03 2006

WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 8952 • MADISON, WI 53708

May 2, 2006

Co-Chair Representative Sue Jeskewitz
Co-Chair Senator Carol Roessler
Joint Legislative Committee on Audit
Wisconsin State Legislature

Audit Committee Co-Chairs,

We the undersigned respectfully request an audit of the total costs incurred by the State of Wisconsin and the Department of Natural Resources related to the reprinting and re-issuing of tags and regulations, including postage, printing and labor costs due to the modifications to the 2006 deer regulations as approved by the Department of Natural Resources Board on April 26, 2006 creating a statewide December antlerless deer hunt.

In order to achieve the necessary data for an optimal policy analysis, we believe an audit of 2006-07 deer harvest figures should include all of the following criteria:

- Total number of deer harvested statewide during each month of the 2006-07 season
- Total number of deer harvested in every individual unit of the state during each month of the 2006-07 season
- Total number of deer harvested in every individual unit of the state during each month of the 2006-07 season corresponding to "antlered" and "antlerless" classifications
- Total number of deer harvested in every individual unit of the state during each month of the 2006-07 season corresponding to the method of harvest, including conventional guns, muzzle-loading guns and bow & arrows
- Comparable data from previous deer seasons to requested data, if available

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Respectfully yours,

Representative Donald Friske

Speaker John Gard

Representative Scott Gunderson

Representative Debbie Towns

Representative Dan Meyer

Representative Jeff Mursau

Representative Jerry Petrowski

Representative Scott Suder

Representative Terry Musser

Asbjornson, Karen

From: Shorter, Ginnie
Sent: Friday, May 05, 2006 12:25 PM
To: Asbjornson, Karen
Subject: FW: December Deer Hunt Audit Request

Attachments: May05-06.pdf; JointAuditLetter.pdf

CR email

From: Rep.Friske
Sent: Friday, May 05, 2006 12:19 PM
Subject: December Deer Hunt Audit Request

Wisconsin State Assembly

May 5, 2006 ... FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Representative Friske (888) 534-0035 or (715) 536-4515
Rep.Friske@legis.state.wi.us or www.FriskeNet.net

Legislature Requests Audit of Upcoming Deer Season Harvest, Costs

Madison ... Wisconsin Republican state representatives on Wednesday requested the Joint Legislative Committee on Audit, co-chaired by Senator Carol Roessler (R – Fond du Lac) and Representative Sue Jeskewitz (R – Menomonee Falls), to initiate an audit of the results of the 2006-07 deer season versus previous deer seasons. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Board has authorized a statewide December gun deer hunt for antlerless deer.

The representatives requested the audit to provide Wisconsin hunters with a non-partisan statistical analysis of the coming season from the Legislative Audit Bureau, an agency who unlike the DNR has no stake in the outcome of the final numbers. It is better to judge success and failure of a statewide December hunt based only on the data experienced in the woods and fields by Wisconsin hunters.

The audit requested would focus on two central issues:

- A comparison of the total number of deer harvested in the 2006-07 deer season to recent deer season harvests by the following criteria:
 - Month of deer season;
 - Firearm type; and
 - Deer Management Unit
- The cost to implement changes to the gun deer season following recently approved changes
 - The Department has testified it will cost no more than \$54,000 to reprint and re-issue hunting tags and regulations

The audit has been requested by the following legislators:

- Representative Donald Friske (R – Merrill)
- Assembly Speaker John Gard (R – Peshtigo)
- Representative Scott Gunderson (R – Waterford)
- Representative Dan Meyer (R – Eagle River)

- Representative Jeff Mursau (R – Crivitz)
- Representative Terry Musser (R – Black River Falls)
- Representative Jerry Petrowski (R – Marathon)
- Representative Scott Suder (R – Abbotsford)
- Representative Debbie Towns (R – Janesville)

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May05-06.pdf (44 KB)



JointAuditLetter.pdf (69 KB)



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE

Joint Audit Committee

Committee Co-Chairs:
State Senator Carol Roessler
State Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz

May 8, 2006

Representative Donald Friske
312 North, P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Representative Friske:

We received the request that you recently submitted to the Joint Audit Committee. This letter serves as confirmation of that request.

Each request submitted receives serious consideration. As conscientious legislators, we all welcome new ways to do things less expensively or more efficiently. We, as co-chairs of the committee, aim to meet once a month to discuss all requests. Shortly after the meeting, one of us will follow-up with you directly to let you know the status of your request.

Thank you again for your request and we will be in touch soon.

Sincerely,

Senator Carol Roessler
Co-chairperson
Joint Legislative Audit Committee

Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz
Co-chairperson
Joint Legislative Audit Committee



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE

Joint Audit Committee

Committee Co-Chairs:
State Senator Carol Roessler
State Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz

May 8, 2006

Assembly Speaker John Gard
211 West, P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Speaker Gard:

We received the request that you recently submitted to the Joint Audit Committee. This letter serves as confirmation of that request.

Each request submitted receives serious consideration. As conscientious legislators, we all welcome new ways to do things less expensively or more efficiently. We, as co-chairs of the committee, aim to meet once a month to discuss all requests. Shortly after the meeting, one of us will follow-up with you directly to let you know the status of your request.

Thank you again for your request and we will be in touch soon.

Sincerely,

Senator Carol Roessler
Co-chairperson
Joint Legislative Audit Committee

Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz
Co-chairperson
Joint Legislative Audit Committee



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE

Joint Audit Committee

Committee Co-Chairs:
State Senator Carol Roessler
State Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz

May 8, 2006

Representative Scott Gunderson
7 West, P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Representative Gunderson:

We received the request that you recently submitted to the Joint Audit Committee. This letter serves as confirmation of that request.

Each request submitted receives serious consideration. As conscientious legislators, we all welcome new ways to do things less expensively or more efficiently. We, as co-chairs of the committee, aim to meet once a month to discuss all requests. Shortly after the meeting, one of us will follow-up with you directly to let you know the status of your request.

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Sincerely,

Senator Carol Roessler
Co-chairperson
Joint Legislative Audit Committee

Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz
Co-chairperson
Joint Legislative Audit Committee



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE

Joint Audit Committee

Committee Co-Chairs:
State Senator Carol Roessler
State Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz

May 8, 2006

Representative Dan Meyer
306 East, P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Representative Meyer:

We received the request that you recently submitted to the Joint Audit Committee. This letter serves as confirmation of that request.

Each request submitted receives serious consideration. As conscientious legislators, we all welcome new ways to do things less expensively or more efficiently. We, as co-chairs of the committee, aim to meet once a month to discuss all requests. Shortly after the meeting, one of us will follow-up with you directly to let you know the status of your request.

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Sincerely,

Senator Carol Roessler
Co-chairperson
Joint Legislative Audit Committee

Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz
Co-chairperson
Joint Legislative Audit Committee



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE
Joint Audit Committee

Committee Co-Chairs:
State Senator Carol Roessler
State Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz

May 8, 2006

Representative Jeff Mursau
18 North, P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Representative Mursau:

We received the request that you recently submitted to the Joint Audit Committee. This letter serves as confirmation of that request.

Each request submitted receives serious consideration. As conscientious legislators, we all welcome new ways to do things less expensively or more efficiently. We, as co-chairs of the committee, aim to meet once a month to discuss all requests. Shortly after the meeting, one of us will follow-up with you directly to let you know the status of your request.

Thank you again for your request and we will be in touch soon.

Sincerely,

Senator Carol Roessler
Co-chairperson
Joint Legislative Audit Committee

Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz
Co-chairperson
Joint Legislative Audit Committee



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE
Joint Audit Committee

Committee Co-Chairs:
State Senator Carol Roessler
State Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz

May 8, 2006

Representative Terry Musser
11 West, P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Representative Musser:

We received the request that you recently submitted to the Joint Audit Committee. This letter serves as confirmation of that request.

Each request submitted receives serious consideration. As conscientious legislators, we all welcome new ways to do things less expensively or more efficiently. We, as co-chairs of the committee, aim to meet once a month to discuss all requests. Shortly after the meeting, one of us will follow-up with you directly to let you know the status of your request.

Thank you again for your request and we will be in touch soon.

Sincerely,

Senator Carol Roessler
Co-chairperson
Joint Legislative Audit Committee

Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz
Co-chairperson
Joint Legislative Audit Committee



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE
Joint Audit Committee

Committee Co-Chairs:
State Senator Carol Roessler
State Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz

May 8, 2006

Representative Jerry Petrowski
4 West, P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Representative Petrowski:

We received the request that you recently submitted to the Joint Audit Committee. This letter serves as confirmation of that request.

Each request submitted receives serious consideration. As conscientious legislators, we all welcome new ways to do things less expensively or more efficiently. We, as co-chairs of the committee, aim to meet once a month to discuss all requests. Shortly after the meeting, one of us will follow-up with you directly to let you know the status of your request.

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Sincerely,

Senator Carol Roessler
Co-chairperson
Joint Legislative Audit Committee

Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz
Co-chairperson
Joint Legislative Audit Committee



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE
Joint Audit Committee

Committee Co-Chairs:
State Senator Carol Roessler
State Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz

May 8, 2006

Representative Scott Suder
21 North, P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Representative Suder:

We received the request that you recently submitted to the Joint Audit Committee. This letter serves as confirmation of that request.

Each request submitted receives serious consideration. As conscientious legislators, we all welcome new ways to do things less expensively or more efficiently. We, as co-chairs of the committee, aim to meet once a month to discuss all requests. Shortly after the meeting, one of us will follow-up with you directly to let you know the status of your request.

Thank you again for your request and we will be in touch soon.

Sincerely,

Senator Carol Roessler
Co-chairperson
Joint Legislative Audit Committee

Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz
Co-chairperson
Joint Legislative Audit Committee



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE
Joint Audit Committee

Committee Co-Chairs:
State Senator Carol Roessler
State Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz

May 8, 2006

Representative Debi Towns
302 North, P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Representative Towns:

We received the request that you recently submitted to the Joint Audit Committee. This letter serves as confirmation of that request.

Each request submitted receives serious consideration. As conscientious legislators, we all welcome new ways to do things less expensively or more efficiently. We, as co-chairs of the committee, aim to meet once a month to discuss all requests. Shortly after the meeting, one of us will follow-up with you directly to let you know the status of your request.

Thank you again for your request and we will be in touch soon.

Sincerely,

Senator Carol Roessler
Co-chairperson
Joint Legislative Audit Committee

Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz
Co-chairperson
Joint Legislative Audit Committee

Asbjornson, Karen

From: Stegall, Jennifer
Sent: Wednesday, May 24, 2006 4:23 PM
To: Asbjornson, Karen
Subject: Phone call

Bob Jentz
Association of WI. Snowmobile Clubs Inc.

Has questions regarding the Friske request for an audi of the deer hunt.

251-5001

Don't need a decision on this anytime soon. As long as request for harvest numbers not available till end of the year. Huge issue for a lot of groups...a change in the east wing a lot of this will go away...until then we will have these issues. Really big issue to these groups. Even people who are mad that requested this audit, some claim DNR does not do accurate deer counting.



Robert Turner

Assembly Democratic Caucus Chair

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
TO THE 61ST ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

June 1, 2006

Ms. Joan C. Rennert
Racine County Clerk
730 Wisconsin Avenue
Racine, WI 53403

Dear Ms. Rennert:

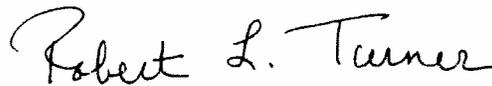
Thank you for the copy of Resolution No. 2006-13, requesting a legislative audit of the Department of Revenue's calculations and payments of sales tax receipts in counties subject to the Southeast Wisconsin Professional Baseball Park District sales tax.

I appreciated hearing of the County's interest in this ongoing issue. I am copying the Co-Chairs of the Joint Committee on Audit to inform them of your request, and will be forwarding your letter and Resolution to them as well.

Since I am not a member of the Audit Committee, I will not be able to participate directly in this decision, but I will monitor the Committee's action with regard to your request.

Again, thank you for sharing your concerns with me.

Sincerely,



Robert L. Turner
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

RLT/nam

Cc: Rep. Suzanne Jeskewitz
Sen. Carol Roessler



MAY 26 2006

OFFICE OF THE RACINE COUNTY CLERK

Joan C. Rennert

730 Wisconsin Avenue, Racine, Wisconsin 53403

E-mail Joanr@Racineco.com

Phone 262-636-3482

Fax 262-636-3491

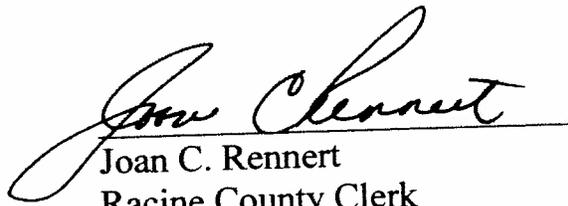
May 2006

Honorable Robert Turner
State Assembly
P O Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Mr. Turner:

I, Joan C. Rennert, County Clerk in and for the County of Racine, State of Wisconsin, do hereby certify that the attached is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 2006-13 adopted by the Racine County Board of Supervisors on May 23, 2006.

The Racine County Board of Supervisors respectfully requests your written response stating your views on the attached resolution.


Joan C. Rennert
Racine County Clerk

County Seal

May 9, 2006

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-13

RESOLUTION BY THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE REQUESTING THAT THE STATE'S LEGISLATIVE AUDIT BUREAU BE DIRECTED TO AUDIT DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE CALCULATIONS AND PAYMENTS OF SALES TAX RECEIPTS IN COUNTIES SUBJECT TO THE SOUTHEAST WISCONSIN PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL PARK DISTRICT SALES TAX

WHEREAS, Racine County is one of the five counties that compose the Southeast Wisconsin Professional Baseball Park District; and

WHEREAS, for that reason, Racine County is subject to a 0.1% sales tax that is collected exclusively for the purpose of retiring the debt of the Southeast Wisconsin Professional Baseball Park District; and

WHEREAS, the obligations of Racine County businesses to collect, and of Racine County residents to pay, said special district sales tax continue until the total of all such revenues collected within the five-county district are sufficient to retire the debt; and

WHEREAS, the district and each county within it must rely entirely on the Wisconsin Department of Revenue's calculations and payments of the proceeds of the special district sales tax; and

WHEREAS, numerous reports indicate a history of substantial inaccuracies in the Department of Revenue's calculations and payments of sales tax proceeds due to individual counties and special districts; and

WHEREAS, the inaccuracies are especially notable for sales tax calculations and payments for the district and the counties that compose it; and

WHEREAS, failure of the Department of Revenue to ensure full credit to the Southeast Wisconsin Professional Baseball Park District of all proceeds of the special district sales tax will require Racine County businesses to collect, and of Racine County residents to pay, said special district sales tax longer than necessary.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Racine County Board of Supervisors calls upon the State Legislature, and in particular the Joint Committee on Audit, to direct the Legislative Audit Bureau to conduct an audit of the Department of Revenue's program for collection, calculation, and payment of local sales tax proceeds, with special attention to the proceeds of the sales tax for the Southeast Wisconsin Professional Baseball Park District.

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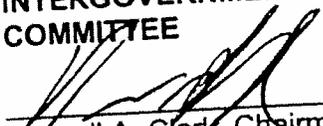
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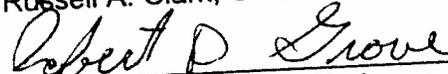
3
4 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Racine County Board of Supervisors
5 that the County Clerk forward copies of this resolution to Governor James Doyle,
6 Department of Revenue Secretary Michael Morgan, Racine County's state
7 legislators, the members of the Joint Committee on Audit, and the Wisconsin
8 Counties Association.

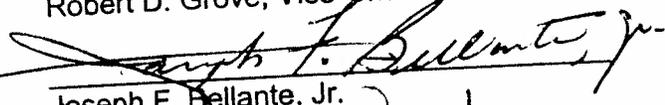
Respectfully submitted,

9
10
11 1st Reading 5/9/06
12
13 2nd Reading 5/23/06
14
15 BOARD ACTION
16 Adopted yes
17 For _____
18 Against _____
19 Absent _____

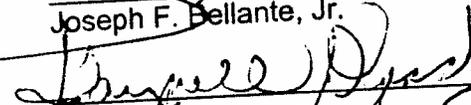
**INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS
COMMITTEE**


Russell A. Clark, Chairman

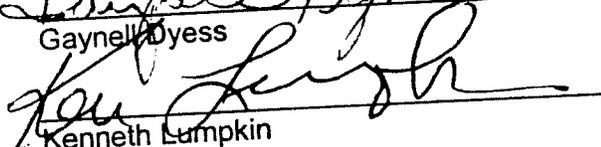

Robert D. Grove, Vice-Chairman

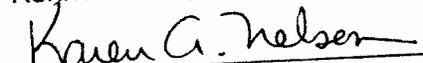

Joseph F. Bellante, Jr.

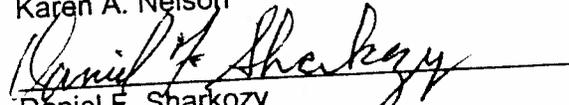
20 VOTE REQUIRED: Majority


Gaynell Dyess

22 Prepared by:
23 Corporation Counsel


Kenneth Lumpkin


Karen A. Nelson


Daniel F. Sharkozy

Asbjornson, Karen

From: Matthews, Pam
Sent: Thursday, June 01, 2006 3:54 PM
To: Asbjornson, Karen; Shannon, Pam; Chrisman, James
Subject: RE: Re: I just called a page to send you stuff

FYI...Per Sue, I already called Rep. Turner's office and explained that the co-chairs had already received Racine County's request and that the co-chairs are monitoring the situation with DOR through monthly reports and that there are no plans at this time to advance an audit. I also mentioned we are receiving requests from all the counties to audit the sales tax distributions and we would not be sending a formal response to Racine's request.

From: Asbjornson, Karen
Sent: Thursday, June 01, 2006 3:50 PM
To: Matthews, Pam; Shannon, Pam; Chrisman, James
Subject: Re: I just called a page to send you stuff

A page is bringing a copy of the following items to Pam S. and Joe right now....

1. DWD response on W-2
2. Rep. Robert Turner's letter on audit of DOR calculations and payments of sales tax receipts in counties subject to the Southeast Wisconsin Professional Baseball Park District sales tax.

Karen Asbjornson
Office of Senator Roessler
1-888-736-8720/608-266-5300
Karen.Asbjornson@legis.state.wi.us





ROBERT W. WIRCH
STATE SENATOR TWENTY-SECOND DISTRICT

June 2, 2006

Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz
Co-chair, Joint Legislative Audit Committee
Room 8-South
State Capitol
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL

JUN 05 2006

Dear Representative Jeskewitz:

I am writing in support of Racine County's request for an audit of DOR practices relating to the calculation, collection and payment of local sales tax proceeds, focusing in particular on the five-county sales tax levied for Miller Park.

Businesses and taxpayers in Racine County who are asked to continue paying this tax until the stadium's debt is paid off clearly have a strong interest in ensuring that the .1% tax is collected and distributed accurately.

The department has acknowledged significant problems with Integrated Tax System software and stated it will not be able to assure confidence in the system until this fall at the earliest. In addition, a preliminary Audit Bureau review counseled caution in seeking to address overpayments until confidence in DOR's system can be restored.

With acknowledged problems with the ITS system and businesses and local governments disputing the stated level of sales tax collection in the 5-county area, I believe the excellent reputation and track record of the Audit Bureau's work can be an important component of ensuring confidence and, most importantly, accuracy.

Therefore, I am writing in support of Racine County's request for an audit of DOR's collection, calculation and payment of local sales tax proceeds, especially those related to the Southeast Wisconsin Professional Baseball Park District.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,


ROBERT WIRCH
State Senator
22nd District

RWW:gg

6/20/06
KA called
Scott Gorton
explained no.
updates this
could forward
needed
sent June May
002 reports