

WISCONSIN STATE  
LEGISLATURE  
COMMITTEE HEARING  
RECORDS

2005-06

(session year)

Senate

(Assembly, Senate or joint)

Committee on  
Agriculture and  
Insurance  
(SC-AI)

File Naming Example:

- Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP
- > 05hr\_AC-Ed\_RCP\_pt01a
  - > 05hr\_AC-Ed\_RCP\_pt01b
  - > 05hr\_AC-Ed\_RCP\_pt02

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

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

> \*\*

- > Committee Reports ... CR

> \*\*

- > Executive Sessions ... ES

> \*\*

- > Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

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INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE  
CLERK FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

- > Appointments ... Appt

> **05hr\_SC-AI\_Appt\_pt08**

Name: R. Topel

- > Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule

> \*\*

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

> \*\*

- > Miscellaneous ... Misc

> \*\*

**Vote Record**  
**Committee on Agriculture and Insurance**

Date: 4-13-06

Moved by: Olsen

Seconded by: E11

*All appointments*

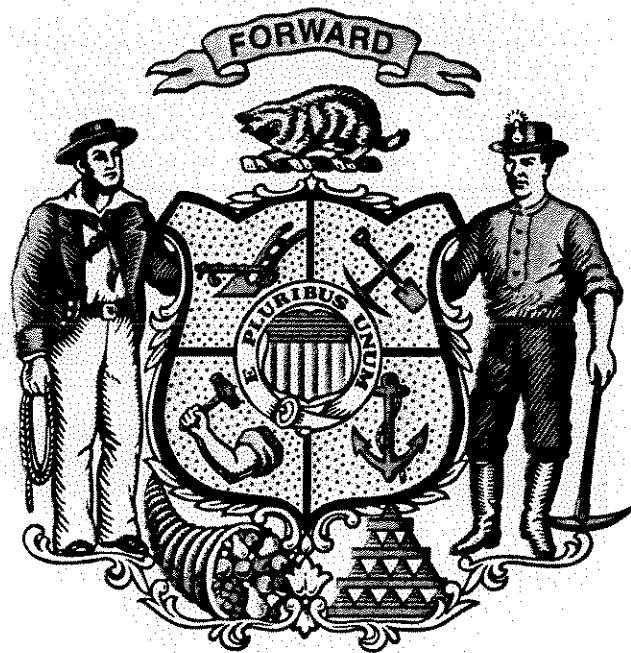
AB \_\_\_\_\_ SB \_\_\_\_\_ Clearinghouse Rule \_\_\_\_\_  
 AJR \_\_\_\_\_ SJR \_\_\_\_\_ Appointment \_\_\_\_\_  
 AR \_\_\_\_\_ SR \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

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:  
 Passage     Adoption     Confirmation     Concurrence     Indefinite Postponement  
 Introduction     Rejection     Tabling     Nonconcurrency

<u>Committee Member</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Not Voting</u>
Senator Dan Kapanke, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Polky</i> Senator Neal Kedzie	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Polky</i> Senator Ronald Brown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator Luther Olsen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator Jon Erpenbach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Polky</i> Senator David Hansen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator Mark Miller	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Totals:</b>	<u>7</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

Motion Carried       Motion Failed





State of Wisconsin  
Jim Doyle, Governor

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection  
Rod Nilsestuen, Secretary

**Livestock Facility Siting Review Board  
Member Biography**

**NAME:** Bob Topel

**MAILING ADDRESS:**  
N656 Philip Lane  
Waterloo, WI 53594

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:**

**RESIDES IN:** Waterloo, WI

**TELEPHONE:** 920-988-3230 (w)  
920-478-4509 (h)

**OCCUPATION:** Dairy Farmer, Vice Chair Foremost Foods

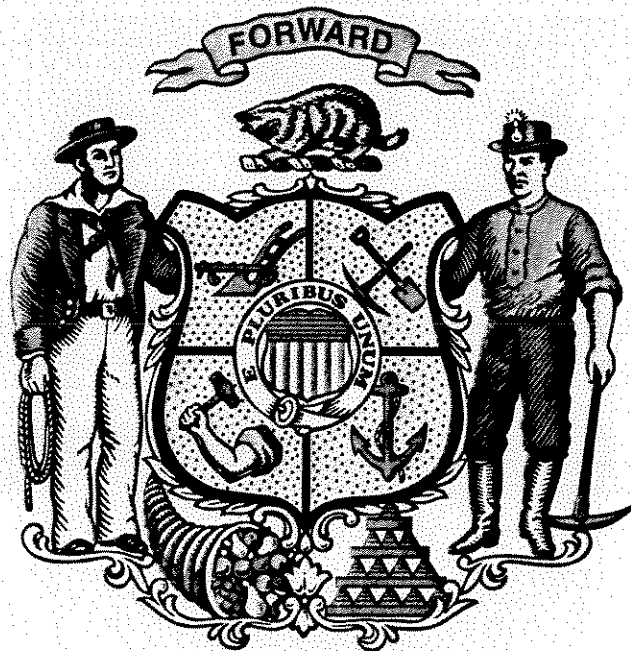
**TERM:** A term to expire May 1, 2011

**SUCCEEDS:** Newly created board

**SENATE CONFIRMATION:**

**DATE OF APPOINTMENT:** February 24, 2006

*Agriculture generates \$51.5 billion for Wisconsin*





State of Wisconsin  
Jim Doyle, Governor

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection  
Rod Nilsestuen, Secretary

February 24, 2006

Mr. Robert Topel  
N656 Philip Lane  
Waterloo, WI 53594

Dear Robert,

You were nominated by the Wisconsin Federation of Cooperative to serve on the Livestock Facility Siting Review Board (Board). I have selected you as an at-large member of the Board, subject to confirmation by the Senate. You will join six other members, four of which must represent towns, counties, livestock farming, and environmental interests. Your term for this seat expires May 1, 2011.


The livestock facility siting law created the Board as a new option to appeal local decisions to approve or deny a proposed livestock facility or expansion. The Board will hear appeals from "aggrieved parties", including the livestock facility operator and any persons who live within 2 miles of the proposed facility. I believe the Board is key to successfully implementing the livestock facility siting program and reducing local siting conflicts.

The schedule of the Board will depend entirely on the number of appeals. I anticipate the Board will meet more frequently during the first year--possibly six to eight times -- and then less frequently over time. The Board will have two to three organizational meetings prior to hearing any appeals.

If you have any questions about this appointment, please contact Jennifer Heaton-Amrhein, at 608-224-4613 or at [jennifer.heaton-amrhein@datcp.state.wi.us](mailto:jennifer.heaton-amrhein@datcp.state.wi.us).

Thank you very much for your willingness to serve the state in this capacity.

Sincerely,

  
Rod Nilsestuen  
Secretary

*Agriculture generates \$51.5 billion for Wisconsin*

2811 Agriculture Drive • PO Box 8911 • Madison, WI 53708-8911 • 608-224-5012 • [Wisconsin.gov](http://Wisconsin.gov)



Mound School Board, and previously served on the Board of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection. He received the 2005 Master Agriculturalist Award, in recognition of proven ability and accomplishments as one of the state's most progressive farmers. Master Agriculturalists are farmers who contribute a considerable amount of their time, effort and knowledge to their communities and the agricultural organizations to which they belong. Mr. Holte is a graduate of the Wisconsin Rural Leadership Program.

**Andrew Johnson, Wausau, WI**

Mr. Johnson is a conservation specialist with the Marathon County Conservation, Planning, and Zoning Department. He is also the chair of the Wisconsin Association of Land Conservation Employees Administrative Committee.

**Lee Engelbrecht, Two Creeks, WI**

Mr. Engelbrecht is a former dairy farmer who is a supervisor for the Town of Two Creeks. He is also the chair of the Manitowoc County Town's Unit, and has been on the Wisconsin Towns Association Board of Directors for four years.



Livestock Facility Siting Review Board  
Member Resumes

**Dr. Jerome Gaska, Columbus, WI**

Dr. Gaska works exclusively with dairy farms; his largest client milks 1,800 cows. He has worked with expanding farms and has the respect of his clients and the veterinary community. Dr. Gaska has been in practice since 1989 when he graduated from the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine and has been a solo practitioner since 1993. Currently Dr. Gaska is a member of the WVMA's Public Health and Food Safety Committee.

**Bob Topel, Waterloo, WI**

Mr. Topel serves on the Town of Portland (Dodge County) Plan Commission and previously served on the town's Smart Growth Committee. In his current position, he is responsible for conducting land use public hearings and making recommendations to his townships.

Mr. Topel also serves as vice-chair of the Foremost Farms USA Board, the largest Wisconsin-based dairy cooperative and processor. He presides as co-chair of the Wisconsin Federation of Cooperatives-Minnesota Association of Cooperatives Two-State Dairy Committee.

Mr. Topel and his family recently modernized and expanded their own Dodge County dairy operation to 200 cows in recent years. This modernization required him to work effectively with county and town officials and would provide valuable expertise to the LFSRB.

**Robert Selk, Madison, WI**

Mr. Selk is a former Assistant Attorney General for the State of Wisconsin. He is currently an attorney and international consultant in criminal justice reform. He recently served on the state's Manure Management Task Force.

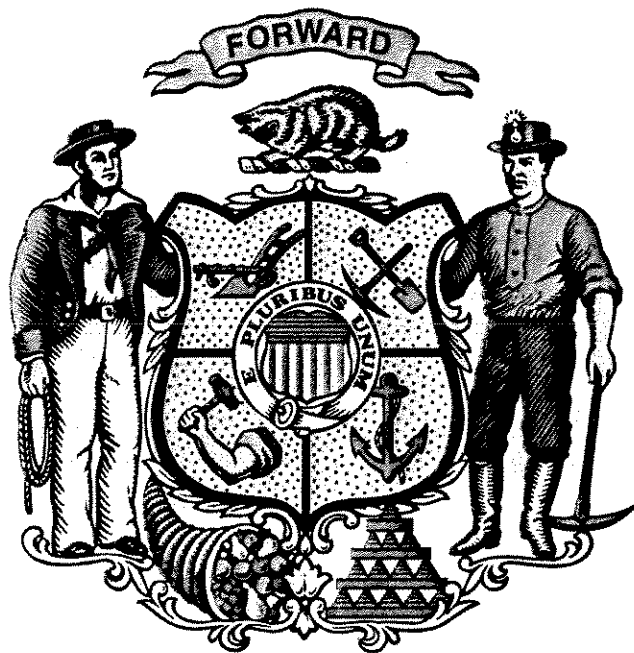
Mr. Selk is an avid trout fisherman and active member of Trout Unlimited.

**Fran Byerly, Barron, WI**

Mr. Byerly is a Director at Jennie-O Turkey Store, Inc.

**Jim Holte, Elk Mound, WI**

Mr. Holte is a beef and grain farmer in Dunn County, WI. He is a member of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation's Board of Directors, Vice-President of the Elk





State of Wisconsin  
Jim Doyle, Governor

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Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection  
Rod Nilsestuen, Secretary

March 22, 2006

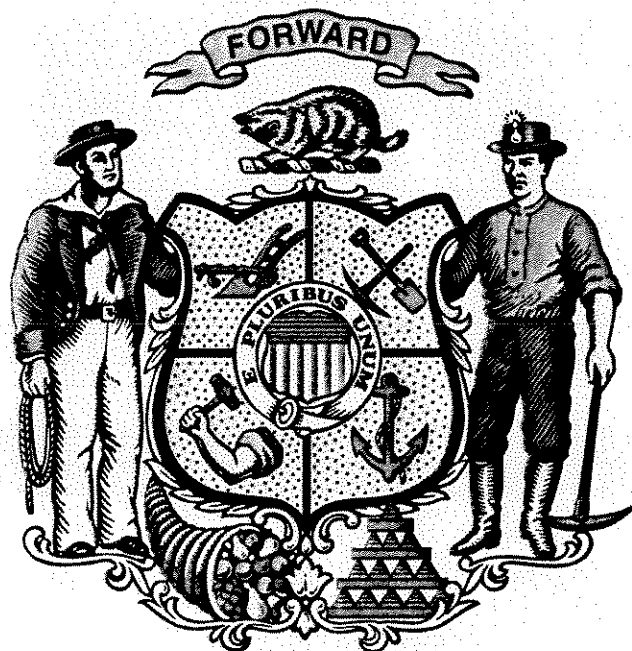
To the Honorable, the Senate:

I am pleased to nominate and with the advice and consent of the Senate, do appoint Mr. Robert Topel to be a member on the Livestock Facility Siting Review Board to serve a term expiring May 1, 2011.

Mr. Topel will be available to the Senate for hearings and my staff will assist in any way they can.

Respectfully submitted,

Rod Nilsestuen, Secretary  
Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection





## WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 8952 • MADISON, WI 53708

April 11, 2006

Senator Dan Kapanke, Chair  
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Insurance  
State Capitol, Room 104S  
Madison, WI 53701

Dear Chairperson Kapanke and Members of the Committee,

Please accept this letter as a wholehearted recommendation for Bob Topel's confirmation to the Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection's (DATCP) Livestock Facility Siting Review Board (LFSRB).

Bob has been a constituent of ours for as long as we've been in the Legislature. As a family farmer and active in the community, Bob has strong and positive reputation in the Waterloo area. He's been active in the Town of Portland and has previously served on the town's Smart Growth Committee.

In addition to his ties to the community, he has intimate ties to the livestock industry as a whole. Bob currently serves the industry in several capacities: as vice-chair of the Foremost Farms USA Board, the largest Wisconsin-based dairy cooperative and processor; and as the co-chair of the Wisconsin Federation of Cooperatives-Minnesota Association of Cooperatives Two-State Dairy Committee.

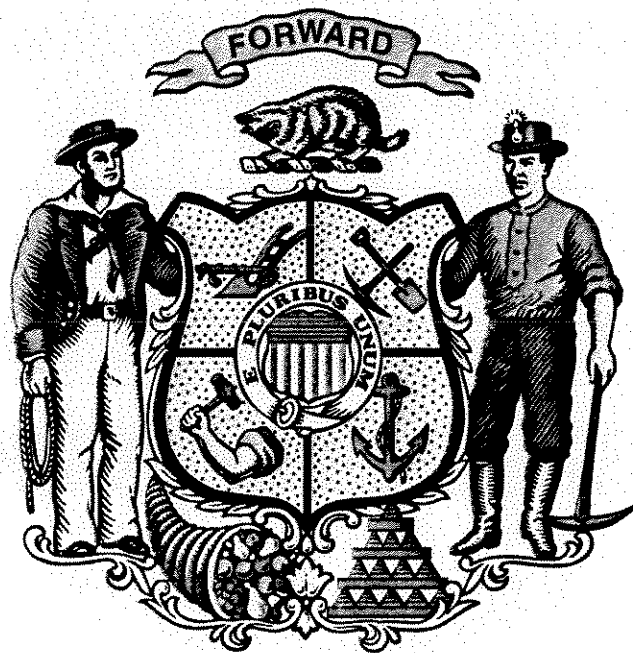
The combinations of his professional and personal experience make Bob an ideal member of DATCP's LFSRB. He holds the ability to look at individual situations from different perspectives: that of a producer, a member of local government, and a participant in the greater farming industry. Each of these perspectives will be invaluable should appeals be presented before the Board.

Again, we urge you to confirm the nomination of Bob Topel to the Livestock Siting Review Board. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

David Ward  
State Representative  
37<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Scott Fitzgerald  
State Senator  
13<sup>th</sup> Senate District



**Perlich, John H.**

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**From:** Ward, Dave  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2006 9:27 AM  
**To:** Kapanke, Dan; Perlich, John H.; OBrien, John; Kedzie, Neal; Sen.Kedzie; Johnson, Dan (Legislature); Phillips, Matt; Brown, Ronald; Sen.Brown; Mnuk, Katie; Little, Kevin; Lindstedt, Daniel; Duerkop, Nathan; Olsen, Luther; Sen.Olsen; Smith, Heather; Hogan, Rebecca; Boario, Mary Ellen; Bruce, Cory; Lipp, Elizabeth; Erpenbach, Jon; Sen.Erpenbach; Knutson, Tryg; Holland, Bernadette; Johnson, Kelly; Hansen, Dave; Sen.Hansen; Genrich, Eric; Lundquist, Jessica; Wagnitz, John; Wadd, Jay; Miller, Mark; Sen.Miller; Huber, Grant; Kuhn, Jamie; Zehren, David; Sen.Kapanke  
**Cc:** Block, Cindy  
**Subject:** Letters of Support for Today's Senate Ag & Ins Hearing

**Importance:** High

**Attachments:** Bob Topel Siting Review Board Letter from DW and Fitz (4.13.06).pdf; Jim Holte Livestock Siting Review Board PDF.pdf

Colleagues,

Attached are two letters of support for the nominations of Mr. Bob Topel and Mr. Jim Holte to DATCP's Livestock Facility Siting and Review Board. Hardcopies will be provided at this morning's hearing.

Thank you for your time and consideration! Please do not contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Dave Ward  
State Representative  
37th Assembly District

Scott Fitzgerald  
State Senator  
13th Senate District



Bob Topel Siting  
Review Board ...



Jim Holte Livestock  
Siting Rev...



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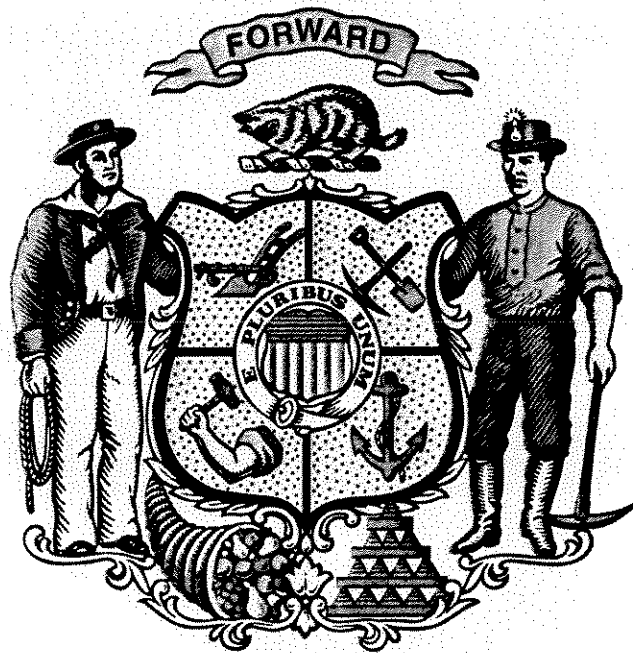
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