

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

Published Documents

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

➤ **

➤ Committee Reports ... CR

➤ **

➤ Executive Sessions ... ES

➤ **

➤ Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

➤ **

*Information Collected For Or
Against Proposal*

➤ Appointments ... Appt

➤ **

➤ Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule

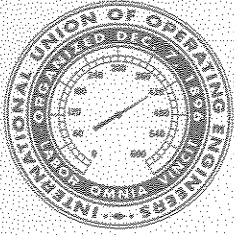
**

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

➤ **05hr_ab0222_SC-AI_pt01**

➤ Miscellaneous ... Misc

➤ **



International Union of Operating Engineers

LOCAL ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-NINE

CHARTERED FOR THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

N27 W23233 ROUNDY DRIVE P.O. BOX 130 PEWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53072

PHONE: (262) 896-0139 FAX (262) 896-0758

TERRANCE E. MCGOWAN
Business Manager

August 24, 2005

Dear Senate Committee on Insurance Member:

RE: AB-222, SB-137

Operating Engineers Local 139 supports efforts to clean up the Fox River in northeastern Wisconsin. This issue has been discussed for many years and it looks like we are getting closer to some major action actually being taken.

Unfortunately, there still continues to be a dispute over how to actually finance the cleanup and without legislative action we fear that deadlock will continue. We believe AB-222 and the Senate companion bill SB-137 will help to break that deadlock!

The Operating Engineers are ready to go to work to get the cleanup done in a clean, efficient, cost-efficient manner. Your support for AB-222 and SB-137 will help us accomplish that!

Sincerely,

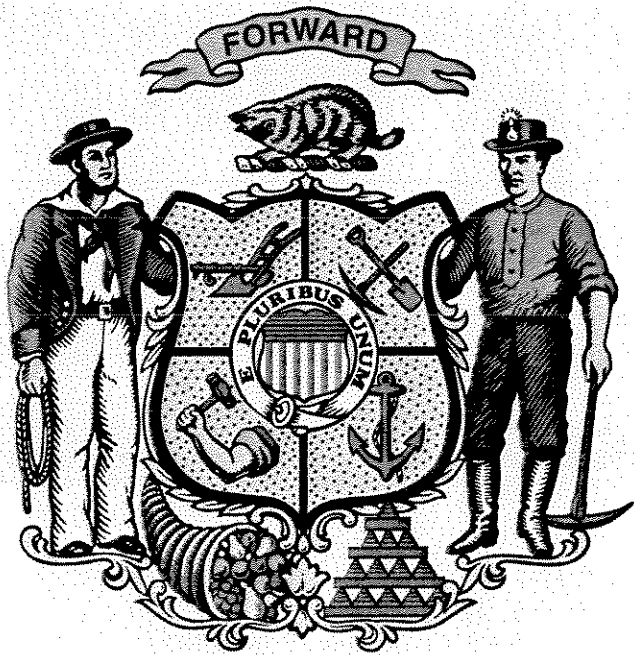
Terry McGowan
Business Manager

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Perlich, John H.

From: Ellen Koxlien [wcmic.edk@trivest.net]
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2005 3:49 PM
To: Sen.Kapanke
Subject: "All Sums"

Senator Kapanke,

I was unable to attend a recent Town Hall Meeting in LaCrosse but did attend a Town Hall Meeting in Eau Claire with Senator Ron Brown this week. I am contacting you to encourage you to oppose the proposed AB222 "All Sums" legislation.

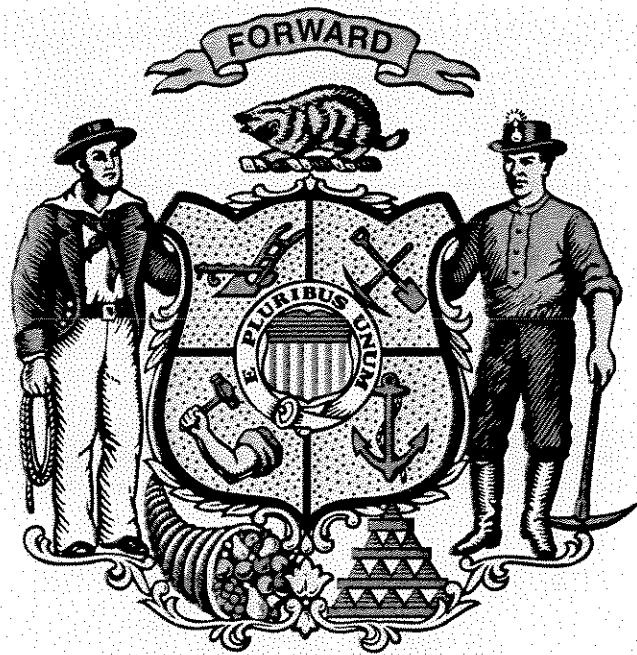
I represent a 134 year old town mutual insurance company headquartered in Whitehall. We provide farm and home insurance to approximately 1500 policyholders in our area. The town mutual insurance industry has played a vital, honorable and important role in Wisconsin and the "All Sums" legislation has the potential to devastate our industry. If you are unfamiliar with the town mutual insurance industry please feel free to contact me at any time.

We urge you to oppose this very dangerous legislation. Without the ability to rely on the contracts we have issued there is no way we can reasonably forecast rates. There has to be a way to measure the risk. This legislation is unprecedented and unimaginable. Please stop it in committee.

Thank you for your time.

Ellen Koxlien
West Central Mutual Insurance Company
36396 Main Street
Whitehall, WI 54773
Phone: 715-538-2249
FAX 715-538-2281
email: wcmic.edk@trivest.net

08/24/2005





Wisconsin Federation of Cooperatives

131 West Wilson Street, Suite 400 • Madison, WI 53703-3269
Phone 608.258.4400 • Fax 608.258.4407 • www.wfcmac.coop

August 25, 2005

To: The Honorable Dan Kapanke, Chair and
Members, Senate Committee on Agriculture and Insurance

From: David Jenkins, Electric Division Manager, WFC
Melissa Duffy, Director of Government Relations, WFC

Re: Opposition to Assembly Bill 222

The Wisconsin Federation of Cooperatives (WFC) would like to express its serious reservations about Assembly Bill 222, otherwise known as the "Fair Claims" Act.

WFC opposes AB 222 not only from an insurance perspective, but a broader business perspective. Our membership includes town mutual insurers, the Wisconsin Reinsurance Corporation and Federated Rural Electric Insurance (providing coverage to rural utilities in forty states). Although these insurers differ considerably on size and scale, all are of the opinion that enactment of this precedent-setting legislation would have far-reaching negative ramifications on Wisconsin's insurance market, otherwise considered one of the healthiest in the nation.

From a business viewpoint, we see AB 222 as a bold attempt to impose legislative authority over contracts entered into decades ago. In plain language, AB 222 would remove the authority to interpret certain contracts from our courts and place that authority with one of the parties under contract, ie. paper companies. That is a violation of the U.S. Constitution (Article I, Section 10) and the Wisconsin State Constitution (Article I, Section 12) which prohibit the passage of any law that would impair the obligation of contracts.

We believe legislators should consider the constitutionality of legislation before them. Consistent with their oaths to uphold the constitution, we believe members of the Senate should oppose this legislation.

Thank you Chairman Kapanke and committee members for your consideration.