DRAFTER'S NOTE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

LRBa0969/P1dn BAB:kjf:nwn

January 2, 2008

ATTN: John Wagnitz

The attached amendment has been prepared in preliminary form. Please review the amendment carefully to ensure that it is consistent with your intent. I have made minor changes to the language proposed by your constituent in order to provide consistency with the language used in the bill and to conform to our drafting conventions but the substance remains unchanged.

In multiple instances, the constituent's proposed language substitutes "hazardous materials emergency response teams and emergency response dispatchers" for state and local law enforcement and emergency response agencies. The literal interpretation of this language would require the railroads to communicate directly with every person who works as an emergency response dispatcher and to each emergency response team, which would seem both difficult to accomplish and likely would not be the most efficient means for the persons making command decisions to acquire this information. Is that your intent or would you prefer to keep the existing language in order to allow the relevant agencies to make decisions as to which persons should receive that information?

On page 4, line 11, of the constituent's proposed amendment, there is a reference to "Homeland Security" and I have assumed that this reference is to the federal Department of Homeland Security. Accordingly, I have referred to the federal agency, rather than the Wisconsin Homeland Security Council, in this amendment draft. Is that your intent? Would you also like to require that railroads provide the various hazardous cargo reports, information, and alerts to the Wisconsin Homeland Security Council or any other agency or person?

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