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Details:

(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

**WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ...  
PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS**

**2007-08**

(session year)

**Senate**

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

**Committee on ... Labor, Elections and Urban  
Affairs (SC-LEUA)**

**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**



March 5, 2008

**EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD**

Present: (4) Senators Coggs, Wirch, Lehman and Grothman.

Absent: (1) Senator A. Lasee.

Moved by Senator Wirch, seconded by Senator Coggs that **Senate Amendment 1** be recommended for adoption.

Ayes: (3) Senators Coggs, Wirch and Lehman.

Noes: (1) Senator Grothman.

Absent: (1) Senator A. Lasee.

ADOPTION OF SENATE AMENDMENT 1 RECOMMENDED,  
Ayes 3, Noes 1

Moved by Senator Wirch, seconded by Senator Coggs that **Senate Amendment 2** be recommended for adoption.

Ayes: (4) Senators Coggs, Wirch, Lehman and Grothman.

Noes: (0) None.

Absent: (1) Senator A. Lasee.

ADOPTION OF SENATE AMENDMENT 2 RECOMMENDED,  
Ayes 4, Noes 0

Moved by Senator Wirch, seconded by Senator Coggs that **Senate Amendment 3** be recommended for adoption.

Ayes: (4) Senators Coggs, Wirch, Lehman and Grothman.

Noes: (0) None.

Absent: (1) Senator A. Lasee.

ADOPTION OF SENATE AMENDMENT 3 RECOMMENDED,  
Ayes 4, Noes 0

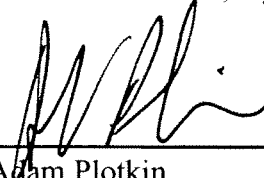
Moved by Senator Wirch, seconded by Senator Lehman that **Senate Bill 462** be recommended for passage as amended.

Ayes: (3) Senators Coggs, Wirch and Lehman.

Noes: (1) Senator Grothman.

Absent: (1) Senator A. Lasee.

PASSAGE AS AMENDED RECOMMENDED, Ayes 3, Noes 1

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Plotkin', written over a horizontal line.

Adam Plotkin  
Committee Clerk





# Vote Record

## Committee on Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs

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Date: Wednesday, March 5, 2008

Moved by: WIRCH                      Seconded by: COGGGS

AB \_\_\_\_\_                      SB 462                      Clearinghouse Rule \_\_\_\_\_  
 AJR \_\_\_\_\_                      SJR \_\_\_\_\_                      Appointment \_\_\_\_\_  
 AR \_\_\_\_\_                      SR \_\_\_\_\_                      Other \_\_\_\_\_

S Amdt 1 \_\_\_\_\_

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                       Nonconcurrence

Committee Member

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Not Voting</u>
<b>Senator Spencer Coggs, Chair</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Senator Robert Wirch</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Senator John Lehman</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Senator Glenn Grothman</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Senator Alan Lasee</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Totals:**                                                                                                

Motion Carried

Motion Failed





## Vote Record

### Committee on Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs

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Date: Wednesday, March 5, 2008

Moved by: WIRCH                      Seconded by: COGGGS

AB \_\_\_\_\_                      SB 462                      Clearinghouse Rule \_\_\_\_\_  
 AJR \_\_\_\_\_                      SJR \_\_\_\_\_                      Appointment \_\_\_\_\_  
 AR \_\_\_\_\_                      SR \_\_\_\_\_                      Other \_\_\_\_\_

S Amdt 3 \_\_\_\_\_

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

Committee Member

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Not Voting</u>
<b>Senator Spencer Coggs, Chair</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Senator Robert Wirch</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Senator John Lehman</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Senator Glenn Grothman</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Senator Alan Lasee</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Totals:**                      \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_

Motion Carried

Motion Failed



**TESTIMONY**  
**Senate Bill 462**  
**Labor, Elections & Urban Affairs**  
**2/27/08**

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for allowing us to testify in support of Senate Bill 462 which would require law enforcement officers to undergo psychological testing before being hired.

We're all aware of the terrible tragedy that occurred in Crandon late last year. In addition to the terrible loss of life and pain that was caused by those senseless shootings, sadder still was the fact that it was an off-duty officer who was responsible.

Some have argued that this bill is a knee-jerk reaction and that even if this bill were law it still wouldn't have prevented the loss of life that occurred.

I'm concerned by those types of comments. We met with the families in Crandon and the amount of grief and pain is hard to comprehend. It's compounded by the very real fact that in the end there is little we can do to prevent someone who is bent on killing from doing so. But the families are right in wanting us to do

what we can to minimize the chance of other families suffering the loss they've had to endure.

This bill was not a knee-jerk reaction, but a carefully crafted bill to bring our law enforcement personnel up to the highest standards, both physically and mentally—to make sure that every officer we hire is up to the challenge and the stress that comes from being asked to do such a difficult and dangerous job.

It shouldn't matter if you live in Milwaukee or Monroe, Green Bay or Green Lake—you should have the comfort of knowing that whoever has been hired to protect you is the best possible person for the job—that they are of the highest caliber both physically and mentally.

Throughout this process we have not said that this bill would have prevented their loss. And we cannot guarantee that such a tragedy won't happen again.

But those we trust with the power and decision over life and death to enforce our laws should be the best candidates possible. They should have the necessary physical attributes needed to safely address the varied and sometimes complex situations to which

they are asked to respond---and they should have the necessary mental attributes as well.

When I've spoken to officers about our bill the response I got was one of support. These officers know that not only are the lives of innocent people in their hands and the hands of their partners, but their lives are, too.

I think that's why so many local and county law enforcement agencies already require some form of psychological testing. Of the 46 counties that responded to a recent survey, 41 of them require it. They do so, I think, because ultimately they know that by testing improves the safety for their officers, their communities and reduces potential liability because if questions arise they can say they have taken all existing measures to make sure only the best officers have been hired.

As many of you know I've been fighting to raise our standards of care for mental illness. We may not agree on how to achieve that, but I think we can all agree that mental illness is very real and very serious. It can manifest itself in countless ways and it can and does affect loved ones, friends and neighbors—and yes even police officers.

I introduced the senate companion to Rep. Hraychuck's and Rep. Bies' legislation because I'm deeply concerned that the stress of what we require of our law enforcement officers can exacerbate these types of illnesses in individuals who might already be pre-disposed to them. I believe it is necessary to do what we can to make sure the people we are hiring can handle their duties in a way that is safe for them, safe for their partners and safe for the public.

One of the ways to do that is to address these issues during the hiring process and use what tools we have available to make hiring decisions based upon the best knowledge we have of each candidate's mental health and ability to perform their duties.

After meeting with the families and representatives of law enforcement it was apparent that there were a number of concerns that needed to be addressed.

Finally, the families suggested changes they would like to see. Included in their suggestions was to set a minimum age limit for becoming an officer and that testing be required for officers who

are promoted to special tactical units because of the likelihood that officers in these units would be in more stressful situations.

Representatives from law enforcement made a convincing case that maturity and mental strength are not bound by age. That there are many young people who can rise to the challenge and that age is no guarantee that a person has the ability to do so.

We believe these are issues best addressed by the Law Enforcement Standards Board which is why we require the Board to evaluate the testing and to recommend whether additional testing is needed.

While this bill won't prevent every tragedy in the future, I believe it will prevent others from happening and that its passage will help us better protect our communities and our law enforcement officers.

Thank you.







**ANN HRAYCHUCK**  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE



February 27, 2008

**Testimony of Rep. Ann Hraychuck**  
**Before the Senate Committee on Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs**  
**Senate Bill 462 – Psychological Evaluations for Law Enforcement Officers**

Good afternoon, Chairman Cogg and committee members. I appreciate the opportunity to provide you with information about Senate Bill 462.

Senate Bill 462 requires that a candidate for a full-time law enforcement position must complete a psychological evaluation prior to being hired, and directs the Law Enforcement Standards Board to determine the content of the evaluation. This 15-member board is appointed by the Governor and is charged with the responsibility to set the minimum qualification standards for law enforcement officers in Wisconsin. Attached to my written testimony is more detailed information about the membership and duties of the Law Enforcement Standards Board. The Department of Justice recommended that the Board be given the responsibility of implementing this legislation.

In addition, this bill requires the Board to submit a report to the legislature that evaluates the effectiveness of the psychological evaluation requirement, and also makes a recommendation as to whether psychological evaluations should be required for part-time officers and officers assigned to special weapons or tactical units.

Per my conversation with the Department of Justice, I am amending the bill to extend the implementation timeline from January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 to July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009, and give the Board until July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011 to submit their report to the legislature. The second amendment clarifies that each time a law enforcement officer is hired by a different department or agency, a psychological evaluation must be completed. And finally the third amendment clarifies that Department of Natural Resources rangers who are authorized to carry weapons are also included in the scope of this bill. Conservation wardens were included in the original draft of the legislation.

Current law requires that to be hired as a law enforcement officer in our state the applicant shall be free from any physical, emotional or mental conditions which might adversely affect the performance of their duties. How does an administrator quantify that a candidate is free from emotional or mental conditions without the evaluation of a licensed professional? We require applicants to be examined by a physician to determine physical fitness, but we do not require a psychological evaluation. The rules for training and standards for law enforcement officers have not been changed since 1993. This legislation would fill this void and give law enforcement administrators another tool to assist in the hiring process.

I have attached information from a survey conducted of sheriffs across the state. Based on the results received by my office, at least 60 percent of counties already require psychological evaluations prior to being hired by the sheriff's department. I requested similar information from the Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Association, but have not received any information from them at this time. However, I do know that the City of Milwaukee started including psychological evaluations as a part of their hiring process a few years ago.

Throughout my 32-year law enforcement career, and particularly as Polk County Sheriff, I have strongly believed that the wisest investment of taxpayers' dollars was spending time and resources on hiring and retaining the right people. Psychological evaluations should be a part of a department or agency's approach to risk management. This legislation is the result of months of discussion with the Department of Justice, law enforcement groups from around the state and nation, the Department of Natural Resources, and the families of the victims of the Crandon shootings.

Thank you for your consideration. I would be happy to answer any questions that you may have.

**Law Enforcement Standards Board****Aligned To:** Department of Justice**Senate Confirmed:** No**Term:** 4 years**Web Site:** None**Past Expirations:** None**Vacancies:** Law Enforcement Official**May 2007 Expirations:** Law Enforcement Official - Two Seats, Local Government Representative**Upcoming July 2007 Expirations:** None

**Details:** The 15-member Law Enforcement Standards Board sets minimum employment, education, and training standards for law enforcement, tribal law enforcement, and jail and security detention officers. It certifies persons who meet the standards as qualified to be officers. The board consults with other government agencies regarding the development of training schools and courses, conducts research to improve law enforcement and jail administration and performance, and evaluates governmental units' compliance with standards.

The board shall be composed of 15 members as follows: 1. Six representatives of local law enforcement in this state at least one of whom shall be a sheriff and at least one of whom shall be a chief of police. 2. One district attorney holding office in this state. 3. Two representatives of local government in this state who occupy executive or legislative posts. 4. One public member, not employed in law enforcement, who is a citizen of this state. 5. The secretary of transportation or the secretary's designee. 6. The attorney general or a member of the attorney general's staff designated by the attorney general. 7. The executive staff director of the office of justice assistance in the department of administration. 8. The secretary of natural resources or the secretary's designee. 9. The special agent in charge of the Milwaukee office of the federal bureau of investigation, or a member of the special agent's staff designated by the special agent, who shall act in an advisory capacity but shall have no vote. (b) The members of the board under par. (a) 1. to 4. shall be appointed for staggered 4-year terms, but no member shall serve beyond the time when the member ceases to hold the office or employment by reason of which the member was initially eligible for appointment. (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of any statute, ordinance, local law or charter provision, membership on the board does not disqualify any member from holding any other public office or employment, or cause the forfeiture thereof.

**Additional Info:** None

The following questions were sent out on the Badger State Sheriffs Association listserve, and within two days over 30 sheriffs responded. Follow-up calls were made, and a total of 45 sheriffs responded. Attached are the results.

- 1) Does your agency currently require new hires to do psychological evaluations?
- 2) Does your agency require any additional psychological evaluations after hire, like before being assigned to a special assignment?
- 3) Should employees who leave one agency be required to re-test before going to work for another agency?

County	EVALS	ADD'L EVALS POST-HIRE	RE-TEST FOR AGENCY CHANGE
Adams	Yes	No (unless involved in shooting)	N/A
Ashland	Yes	No	Yes
Bayfield	Yes	No	Yes
Brown	Yes	No	Yes
Burnett	Yes	No	No
Calumet	Yes	No	Yes
Chippewa	Yes	N/A	N/A
Clark	Yes	No	No
Columbia	Yes	N/A	N/A
Dane	Yes	No	Yes
Dodge	Yes	No	No
Door County	Yes	Maybe, for promotions/transfers	Yes
Douglas	Yes	Yes, If Necessary	Yes
Eau Claire	Yes	No	Yes
Grant	Yes	No	Yes
Iowa	Yes	No	Yes
Jackson	Yes	No	Left to discretion of agency
Juneau	No	No	Yes
Kenosha	Yes	No	Yes
Kewaunee	Yes	No	Yes
Langlade	Yes	No	Yes
Lincoln	Yes	No	Yes
Marinette	Yes	N/A	N/A
Milwaukee	Yes	N/A	N/A
Oconto	Yes	no	Yes
Oneida	Yes	No	Yes
Ozaukee	Yes	No	Maybe
Pierce	Yes	N/A	N/A
Polk	Yes	No	Yes
Portage	Yes	No	Yes
Price	Yes	No	Yes
Racine	Yes	No	Yes
Richland	N/A	N/A	No
Rock	yes	Yes, If Necessary	yes
Sauk	yes	Yes, If Necessary	yes
Sawyer	yes	no	yes
Shawano	yes	no	yes
Sheboygan	yes	no	yes
St.Croix	no	no	no
Taylor	Yes	no	yes
Trempealeau	yes	no	no
Walworth	yes	no	yes
Washburn	No	No	No
Waupaca	yes	no	yes
Waushara	yes	no	yes





## Wisconsin Troopers' Association

Casey Perry – Executive Director

Glen Jones – President

2099 Ironwood Drive, Green Bay, Wisconsin 54304-1972

Phone: (Toll Free: 1-800-232-1392) Fax: (Toll Free: 1-800-232-1392)

<http://www.wi-troopers.org/>

February 27, 2008

Submitted testimony relating to SB 462

Senate Committee on Labor, Elections, and Urban Affairs

Dear Chairman Coggs and committee members,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB 462, legislation relating to psychological evaluations of law enforcement officers.

While we support this concept in general, we oppose this version of the bill for the following reasons. First, we believe that the legislation should be drafted to include part-time officers. Our understanding is that the shooter in Crandon was a part-time officer and as we have officers on our force who work part-time for the Patrol and part-time for another agency we feel it is incredibly important that they also be subject to the testing requirements.

We also have significant concerns about the source of funding for the proposed testing. The Department of Justice currently does not have the resources necessary to fund this costly program and it will become another unfunded mandate.

Finally, we would like to be provided with assurance that the required evaluations would be performed by qualified organizations, not just those who provide the cheapest bid. In addition, we believe this bill should address standard procedures for dealing with officers who fail these exams.

Thank you for your consideration.







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## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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*Terry C. Anderson, Director*  
*Laura D. Rose, Deputy Director*

TO: SENATOR SPENCER COGGS

FROM: Russ Whitesel, Senior Staff Attorney

RE: 2007 Senate Bill 462, Relating to Psychological Evaluations for Law Enforcement Officers

DATE: February 28, 2008

This memorandum, prepared at your request, describes the provisions of Senate Amendments 1, 2, and 3 to 2007 Senate Bill 462, relating to psychological evaluations for law enforcement officers.

Under current law, the Law Enforcement Standards Board (board) establishes minimum qualification standards for law enforcement officers. That board may establish, in addition to education and training standards, qualification standards relating to the competence and reliability of a person to assume and discharge the responsibilities of a law enforcement officer.

Senate Bill 462 provides that a candidate for a full-time law enforcement or tribal law enforcement position must submit to a psychological evaluation by a licensed psychologist before being appointed as a full-time law enforcement or tribal law enforcement officer. Under the bill, this evaluation requirement applies to law enforcement or tribal law enforcement officers appointed on or after January 1, 2009. Senate Bill 462 requires local law enforcement agencies, and state agencies that employ law enforcement officers, to review the psychological evaluation of a candidate for a law enforcement officer position before appointing the individual as a full-time law enforcement officer. The bill specifies that all of the psychological evaluations provided for under the bill are confidential and are not subject to public inspection or copied under the Open Records Law.

### **Senate Amendment 1**

Senate Amendment 1, introduced by Senator Hansen, amends the bill to provide that an evaluation that is obtained for an appointment to a law enforcement or tribal law enforcement position by one appointing authority may not be used to satisfy the requirement for an evaluation of an appointment to a law enforcement or tribal law enforcement officer position by another appointing authority.

**Senate Amendment 2**

Senate Amendment 2, introduced by Senator Hansen, changes the initial application of the bill from January 1, 2009 to July 1, 2009. The amendment also requires the Law Enforcement Standards Board to submit its required report to the Legislature by July 1, 2011, rather than by April 1, 2010.

**Senate Amendment 3**

Senate Amendment 3, also introduced by Senator Hansen, makes a number of changes to the bill relating to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The amendment provides that the DNR may not appoint any individual to serve as a full-time ranger who will be authorized to carry a firearm or is a full-time warden unless the department reviews an evaluation by a psychologist that is required under the legislation. The amendment also provides that the department shall keep confidential any record of an evaluation received or maintained and provides that any such record is not open to public inspection or copying.

In addition, Senate Amendment 3 provides that the requirement for an evaluation does not apply to rangers employed by the DNR who are not authorized to carry a firearm. The amendment also makes several cross-reference changes to the statutes to accommodate the provisions of the amendment.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me directly at the Legislative Council staff offices.

RW:jb:ty



Date?



**Written Testimony of Representative Garey Bies  
Senate Committee on Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs  
Senate Bill 462 – Psychiatric Evaluations for Law Enforcement**

Good morning fellow committee members, I will speak just briefly on Senate Bill 462.

As many of you know, I come from serving 30 years in the Door County Sheriff's Department. Twenty years ago, our Department began utilizing psychiatric evaluations for our new officers. I speak with first-hand experience as to the value of psychiatric evaluations for new hires. Our Department found the psychiatric evaluations very useful as another tool to make sure our new deputies were fully capable of handling the responsibilities and stresses of being law enforcement officers. It was our Department's position that these psychiatric assessments were critical before we hired a new deputy, gave them a gun and put them behind the wheel of a squad car.

When Rep. Hraychuck and I began working on this legislation, I was surprised by how many departments throughout the state *did not* utilize psychiatric evaluations. Being from a small department in Northeast Wisconsin, I assumed that if we used the evaluations that most departments throughout the state did as well. I believe these evaluations are an important tool, and while it is unfortunate that such a tragic event brought this issue to light, I think it is important that we take this opportunity to make a change and move this legislation forward

Thank you again for the opportunity to speak in support of Senate Bill 462 and I would be happy to answer any questions that you may have.

*First for Wisconsin!*



SB 462 ?  
Date ?

The following questions were sent out on the Badger State Sheriffs Association listserve, and within two days over 30 sheriffs responded. Follow-up calls were made, and a total of 45 sheriffs responded. Attached are the results.

- 1) Does your agency currently require new hires to do psychological evaluations?
- 2) Does your agency require any additional psychological evaluations after hire, like before being assigned to a special assignment?
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Bayfield	Yes	No	Yes
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Burnett	Yes	No	No
Calumet	Yes	No	Yes
Chippewa	Yes	N/A	N/A
Clark	Yes	No	No
Columbia	Yes	N/A	N/A
Dane	Yes	No	Yes
Dodge	Yes	No	No
Door County	Yes	Maybe, for promotions/transfers	Yes
Douglas	Yes	Yes, If Necessary	Yes
Eau Claire	Yes	No	Yes
Grant	Yes	No	Yes
Iowa	Yes	No	Yes
Jackson	Yes	No	Left to discretion of agency
Juneau	No	No	Yes
Kenosha	Yes	No	Yes
Kewaunee	Yes	No	Yes
Langlade	Yes	No	Yes
Lincoln	Yes	No	Yes
Marinette	Yes	N/A	N/A
Milwaukee	Yes	N/A	N/A
Oconto	Yes	no	Yes
Oneida	Yes	No	Yes
Ozaukee	Yes	No	Maybe
Pierce	Yes	N/A	N/A
Polk	Yes	No	Yes
Portage	Yes	No	Yes
Price	Yes	No	Yes
Racine	Yes	No	Yes
Richland	N/A	N/A	No
Rock	yes	Yes, If Necessary	yes
Sauk	yes	Yes, If Necessary	yes
Sawyer	yes	no	yes
Shawano	yes	no	yes
Sheboygan	yes	no	yes
St.Croix	no	no	no
Taylor	Yes	no	yes
Trempealeau	yes	no	no
Walworth	yes	no	yes
Washburn	No	No	No
Waupaca	yes	no	yes
Waushara	yes	no	yes





SB 462?  
Date?

THESE ~~PSET~~

PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTS

~~MAY~~

WILL RUIN PEOPLES

LIVES. THIS BILL

SHOULD NOT BE PASSED

LIGHTLY.



SB 462  
Folder

Wis State Journal

AL

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2008 | B7

# Testing would-be cops?

By TODD RICHMOND  
Associated Press

A legislative committee approved a bill Thursday that would require prospective police officers to take psychological exams, despite concerns about the cost and whether the tests would protect the public from rogue cops.

The bill comes in response to last fall's mass shooting in Crandon. Tyler Peterson, a 20-year-old off-duty Forest County sheriff's deputy, killed six young people at a party after an argument with his ex-girlfriend. Peterson, who was also a part-time Crandon police officer, killed himself hours later.

Neither the Forest County Sheriff's Department nor the Crandon Police Department required Peterson to take a psychological exam before he was hired. State law doesn't require such testing, although many larger police departments do.

The victims' families have demanded state lawmakers make psychological exams mandatory statewide.

The bill would require anyone applying for a full-time police position in Wisconsin to be tested beginning July 1, 2009. The state Law Enforcement Standards Board would

develop testing standards.

The bill doesn't provide money for the tests, which can run as much as \$300 each. Individual law enforcement agencies would have to cover the expense.

The Assembly Committee on Corrections and Courts approved the proposal on a 6-3 vote. The committee also voted 6-3 to adopt an amendment requiring officers looking for a job at another agency to submit to another test.

Committee member Rep. Joe Parisi, D-Madison, called the plan "basic common sense." But Republicans on the committee were skeptical.

Rep. Steve Kestell, R-Elkhart Lake, complained the bill amounts to an unfunded mandate and contains no cost estimate. "I really feel uneasy about moving this legislation without knowing what the costs are," Kestell said. "They'll be substantial."

Rep. Dean Kaufert, R-Neenah, said he worried the tests would increase departments' liability in officer-involved cases and wouldn't prevent more shootings. "When all this transpired, I know legislators reacted. (But) there's a lot of interested parties here besides

the victims," he said. "What's the answer the next time it happens and this one underwent psychological testing?"

Dennis Kruger, a lobbyist for the Wisconsin Trooper Association, which represents rank-and-file state troopers, told the committee his group opposes the bill because it doesn't include part-time officers.

The bill's author, Rep. Ann Hraychuck, a Balsam Lake Republican and former Polk County sheriff, told the committee she didn't include part-time officers because she wanted to phase-in mandatory testing and save departments money.

Tests in Polk County revealed an otherwise good dispatcher applicant was actually too immature for the job and an impressive road officer applicant had anger management problems and trouble dealing with women, she said.

"It's not a magic answer. But it is good risk management," Hraychuck said.

The committee's vote clears the way for a full vote in the state Assembly. The measure would have to pass that house and the state Senate and get Gov. Jim Doyle's signature to become law.



### Law Enforcement Standards Board

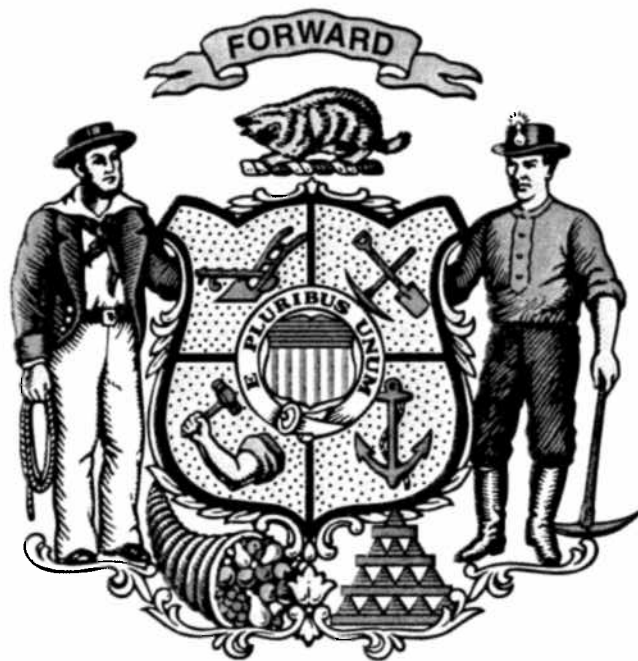
**Aligned To:** Department of Justice  
**Senate Confirmed:** No  
**Term:** 4 years  
**Web Site:** None  
**Past Expirations:** None  
**Vacancies:** Law Enforcement Official  
**May 2007 Expirations:** Law Enforcement Official - Two Seats, Local Government Representative  
**Upcoming July 2007 Expirations:** None

SB 462?

**Details:** The 15-member Law Enforcement Standards Board sets minimum employment, education, and training standards for law enforcement, tribal law enforcement, and jail and security detention officers. It certifies persons who meet the standards as qualified to be officers. The board consults with other government agencies regarding the development of training schools and courses, conducts research to improve law enforcement and jail administration and performance, and evaluates governmental units' compliance with standards.

The board shall be composed of 15 members as follows: 1. Six representatives of local law enforcement in this state at least one of whom shall be a sheriff and at least one of whom shall be a chief of police. 2. One district attorney holding office in this state. 3. Two representatives of local government in this state who occupy executive or legislative posts. 4. One public member, not employed in law enforcement, who is a citizen of this state. 5. The secretary of transportation or the secretary's designee. 6. The attorney general or a member of the attorney general's staff designated by the attorney general. 7. The executive staff director of the office of justice assistance in the department of administration. 8. The secretary of natural resources or the secretary's designee. 9. The special agent in charge of the Milwaukee office of the federal bureau of investigation, or a member of the special agent's staff designated by the special agent, who shall act in an advisory capacity but shall have no vote. (b) The members of the board under par. (a) 1. to 4. shall be appointed for staggered 4-year terms, but no member shall serve beyond the time when the member ceases to hold the office or employment by reason of which the member was initially eligible for appointment. (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of any statute, ordinance, local law or charter provision, membership on the board does not disqualify any member from holding any other public office or employment, or cause the forfeiture thereof.

**Additional Info:** None





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as of Monday, March 03, 2008

**2007-2008 legislative session**  
**Legislative bills and resolutions**

(search for another legislative bill or resolution at the bottom of this page)

**Senate Bill 462**

psychological evaluations for law enforcement officers, providing an exemption from emergency rule procedures, and requiring the exercise of rule-making authority. (FE)

<b>TEXT</b> sponsors LBR analysis	<b>STATUS</b> committee actions and votes text of amendments	<b>COST &amp; HOURS</b> of lobbying efforts directed at this proposal
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Organization		These organizations have reported lobbying on this proposal:	Place pointer on icon to display comments, click icon to display prior comments		
Profile	Interests		Date Notified	Position	Comments
●	●	League of Wisconsin Municipalities	2/13/2008	↔	💬
●	●	Milwaukee Police Association	2/11/2008	↑	
●	●	Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Association Inc	2/18/2008	?	
●	●	Wisconsin Professional Police Association	2/12/2008	?	

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**Proposal Type**

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