

👉 **07hr_sb0471_SC-LEUA_pt01**



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**

Senate

Record of Committee Proceedings

Committee on Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs

Senate Bill 471

Relating to: payment of premiums for health or long-term care insurance coverage from annuities under the Wisconsin Retirement System and distributions from deferred compensation accounts.

By Senators Wirch, Lehman, Lassa, Robson, Roessler and Schultz; cosponsored by Representatives Van Roy, Musser, Boyle, Kaufert, A. Ott, Kerkman, Montgomery, Nygren, Gunderson, Mursau, Hahn and Hintz.

February 25, 2008 Referred to Committee on Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs.

March 5, 2008 **PUBLIC HEARING HELD**

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

Absent: (1) Senator A. Lasee.

Appearances For

- Bob Wirch — Senator
- Rick Gale — Professional Firefighters of Wisconsin

Appearances Against

- None.

Appearances for Information Only

- Matt Stohr — Department of Employee Trust Funds

Registrations For

- Joe Strohl — Professional Firefighters
- Mike Drury — Professional Firefighters of Wisconsin
- Karl Van Roy — Representative

Registrations Against

- None.

Registrations for Information Only

- None.

March 5, 2008 **EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD**

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

Absent: (1) Senator A. Lasee.

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

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

Noes: (0) None.

Absent: (1) Senator A. Lasee.

ADOPTION OF SENATE AMENDMENT 1 RECOMMENDED,
Ayes 4, Noes 0

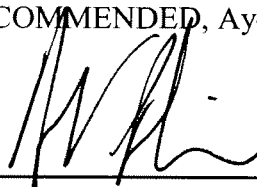
Moved by Senator Lehman, seconded by Senator Coggs that **Senate Bill 471** be recommended for passage as amended.

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

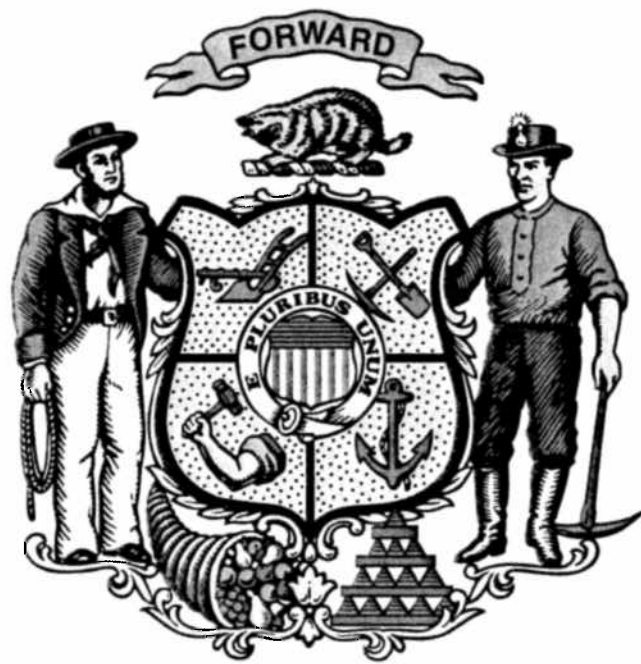
Noes: (0) None.

Absent: (1) Senator A. Lasee.

PASSAGE AS AMENDED RECOMMENDED, Ayes 4, Noes 0



Adam Plotkin
Committee Clerk



Vote Record

Committee on Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs

Date: **Wednesday, March 5, 2008**

Moved by: LEHMAN Seconded by: COGGS

AB _____ SB 471 _____ 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: *as amended*
 Passage Adoption Confirmation Concurrence Indefinite Postponement
 Introduction Rejection Tabling Nonconcurrence

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

Date: **Wednesday, March 5, 2008**

Moved by: LEHMAN Seconded by: COGGS

AB _____ SB 471 _____ 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 Nonconcurrency

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

Motion Carried

Motion Failed





STATE OF WISCONSIN
Department of Employee Trust Funds
David A. Stella
SECRETARY

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CORRESPONDENCE MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 5, 2008
TO: Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs
FROM: Matt Stohr, Director of Legislation, Communications and Planning
SUBJECT: 2007 Senate Bill 471

The Department of Employee Trust Funds opposes 2007 Senate Bill (SB 471) because the bill fails to provide the resources necessary for the Department to implement the new service for Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS) annuitants without affecting other services.

SB 471 would require the Department to withhold and remit health insurance and long-term care premiums for retired "public safety officers" who choose to have premiums deducted from their WRS annuity. In addition, the bill provides that the Deferred Compensation Board may require the Department's deferred compensation plan, upon election by a participant, to offer a similar service for deferred compensation accounts. To be clear, the Department and the Deferred Compensation Board support this latter requirement, as the costs could be absorbed under the current fee structure, however, the Department opposes the WRS portion of this bill.

If this legislation is enacted into law without the required resources, the Department will have to reprioritize existing and critical retirement-related service delivery to accommodate this new mandatory service which is currently optional under federal law. As referenced in the fiscal estimate, this bill would have a significant initial cost as well as an ongoing cost to the Department and the bill doesn't provide additional resources to the Department. In addition, this bill has an immediate effective date that is unachievable given the absence of resources.

The Department appreciates the willingness of the author to introduce Senate Amendment 1 to SB 471, which addresses our resource concerns and delays the effective date of the bill to January 1, 2009.

Thank you for considering our comments. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 266.3641 if you have any questions.





ROBERT W. WIRCH

STATE SENATOR TWENTY-SECOND DISTRICT

March 5, 2008

Testimony on Senate Bill 471 before the Labor, Elections, and Urban Affairs Committee

Good morning Chairman Coggs and committee members. Thank you for holding a hearing on Senate Bill 471.

As you know, both federal and state policy encourage fire fighters and law enforcement officers to retire early so that we have younger men and women working in these rigorous positions.

The usual retirement age without a penalty for these professions is 54 years. Retirees are not eligible for Medicare until they are at least 65 years of age. That includes all police and some fire fighters. Some fire fighters never become eligible for Medicare.

Therefore when police and fire fighters retire many of them need to purchase private health insurance.

Last year, as part of a federal pension reform act (Pension Protection Act of 2006), Congress adopted a provision that enables a fire fighters or police officer to receive up to a \$3,000 income tax deduction if he or she uses \$3,000 of their retirement funds to pay for health insurance premiums.

The only catch is that the pension dollars need to go directly from the Employee Trust Fund to the insurance company. At the current time ETF does not have authority to do that.

SB-471 gives ETF that authority.

The amendment that is before you gives ETF staff the needed resources to set up the system (2.1 positions) and then to operate it (1.1 positions). It is important to note that these are not GPR positions but rather SEG funded internally from the Trust Fund. The amendment also delays implementation until Jan 1, 2009.

The Assembly Committee on State Affairs has passed the companion bill (assembly Bill 851 authored by Representative VanRoy) as amended 9-0. I hope that this Committee will pass this bill today.



Date?

SB471 Amendment summary from Wirth

ETF was concerned that they would not have enough staff/resources to take care of withholding and remitting health insurance and long-term care premiums for retired public safety officers. The amendment gives ETF 2.1 SEG positions and allows for sum sufficient dollars taken from the employee trust fund for initial and ongoing administrative costs (thus no GPR used).

ETF is withdrawing their opposition to the bill w/ the amendment attached.



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Presented by the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board



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 471

payment of premiums for health or long-term care insurance coverage from annuities under the Wisconsin Retirement System and distributions from deferred compensation accounts. (FE)

<p>TEXT sponsors LBR analysis</p>	<p>STATUS committee actions and votes text of amendments</p>	<p>COST & HOURS of lobbying efforts directed at this proposal</p>
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Organization				
These organizations have reported lobbying on this proposal:		<small>Place pointer on icon to display comments, click icon to display prior comments</small>		
Profile	Interests	Date Notified	Position	Comments
●	●	2/14/2008	↑	

Select a legislative proposal and click "go"

House Assembly
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Proposal Type Bill
Joint Resolution
Resolution

Proposal Number (enter proposal number)

Legislative Session 2007 Regular Session ▼