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Details: Public Hearing (10/18/2007) on WisconsinEye license agreement

(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ... PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS

2007-08

(session year)

Senate Special

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on ... Oversight of Senate Broadcasting (SSC-OSB)

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**

* Contents organized for archiving by: Gigi Godwin (LRB) (November/2011)

DRAFT MEMORANDUM

TO: Special Committee on
Oversight of Senate Broadcasting

FROM: Robert J. Marchant
Chief Clerk and Director of Operations

DATE: October 18, 2007

RE: WisconsinEye License Agreement

This memorandum outlines the manner in which the license agreement between the State of Wisconsin and WisconsinEye effects the operations of the Wisconsin Senate and describes 2 concepts that the committee may wish to consider concerning the legislative protocols contained in the license agreement.

Role of Chief Clerk and Director of Operations

- Chief Clerk is the main point of contact for WisconsinEye concerning its operations in the Senate.
- Strong working partnership between Chief Clerk and Chris Long, President of WisconsinEye. Goal has been to facilitate the operation of WisconsinEye as much as possible, with due respect for the decorum and traditions of the Senate.
- WisconsinEye e-mails schedule of proceedings that will be broadcast or recorded on the Friday before the week during which the proceedings will take place.
- Majority and Minority Leaders, President, and Sergeant-at-Arms are included on notification.

User Agreement Prohibiting Political or Commercial Use

- Any person who seeks to use WisconsinEye's footage must enter into a user agreement with WisconsinEye that prohibits use of the footage for political or commercial purposes.
- Agreement also applies to Senate staff who will be using WisconsinEye's feed to produce Senate communications pieces.
- WisconsinEye must sue to enforce user agreement.
- Fair use doctrine may make it difficult to prohibit political and commercial use (except by state employees, of course).
- Agreement is currently being negotiated under direction of Majority Leader.

Rob: PK will want to expand on this probably

Commencement of Recording/Broadcasting

- Sergeant-at-Arms must post notice that a proceeding is being recorded.

Contact Robson's office for Detail

- WisconsinEye may begin recording up to 5 minutes before the noticed start time of the proceeding. Audio must be background only (sufficient to establish presence but not to communicate content).

Termination of Recording/Broadcasting *Rob: Directing cameras to ceiling when done recording.*

- Generally, transmission of signal must terminate 10 seconds after proceedings adjourn or recess. During the 10 seconds, audio must be background only and video must be the general view of the room.
- Standing informal does not result in termination of signal transmission but camera focus must be on podium and audio must shut off.
- Presiding officer may terminate transmission of signal immediately if a person not associated with the proceeding presents a risk of bodily harm. WisconsinEye and Committee on Senate Organization must agree upon a phrase that signals to WisconsinEye to terminate transmission. As of yet the phrase has not been determined. *What about if it is a person associated w/ proceeding?*

Potential Changes to Legislative Protocols

- Use of a button that would signal to the control booth that the Senate is adjourned or recessed. Currently, control booth must listen carefully to proceedings to determine whether Senate is adjourned or recessed. Cost may be a factor to consider, however, as well as perception of this being a "kill switch." *gavel?*
- Make oversight committee permanent, with power to vet complaints or suggestions, maintain institutional dialogue with WisconsinEye, and make recommendations to the Committee on Senate Organization.



October 18, 2007

Wisconsin Legislature
State Senate
Special Committee
On Oversight of Senate Broadcasting
Senator Pat Kreitlow, Chair

Dear Senator Kreitlow:

I'm very pleased to have the opportunity to provide this committee with an update on WisconsinEye. I'm representing the network in our capacity as the Legislature's partner and contractor in accomplishing the State of Wisconsin's vision for televised coverage of government—gavel-to-gavel, independent and nonpartisan, accessible to residents across the state, and financed by private contributions without any state funding.

Here is an overview of WisconsinEye's status:

INSTALLATION

Our Capitol project involving installation of 70 robotic camera positions, which received final state approval in November 2006, is substantially complete. There is still some visible work to be done to activate the Rotunda camera positions. Our contractors' to-do list also includes some additional behind-the-walls testing of fiber to several individual rooms. As always, our goal is to be unobtrusive in our work and respectful of the integrity of this beautiful and historic building.

OPERATIONS

WisconsinEye began broadcasting on the Internet on May 16 and on cable July 10. Since launch, as required under our state contract, we've aired live, gavel-to-gavel coverage of all Assembly and Senate floor sessions. We've been live with the Joint Finance Committee beginning with its May 17 meeting, and all Conference Committee meetings. We've also provided live or tape-delayed coverage of a substantial number of other standing and joint legislative committees. A complete listing of our committee coverage so far is attached (**Attachment A**).

From WisconsinEye's standpoint, we've encountered no significant operational problems in our coverage to this point, other than the occasional member or speaker forgetting to turn on his or her microphone during committee meetings, causing a temporary loss of audio coverage. We expect this problem will be largely self-correcting but would ask that committee chairpersons please remind members and other speakers about their microphones. We greatly appreciate the operational assistance we've received in our Senate coverage from Chief Clerk Rob Marchant, Sergeant at Arms Ted Blazel, and their respective staffs.

Our broadcast infrastructure in the Capitol includes, with respect to legislative coverage, camera positions in both the Assembly and Senate chambers, all legislative committee hearing rooms, the Assembly and Senate parlors, and also the Rotunda. To date, in addition to live floor coverage, we've provided live coverage of committee meetings from 412-E, 411-S and 417-N (G.A.R.) using our robotic camera equipment. We've aired tape-delayed coverage of committee activity in other meeting rooms using our field crew.

Our live committee coverage is currently limited to those rooms with in-house audio. In the coming months we'll be experimenting with producing broadcast-quality audio and live coverage from other hearing rooms in which we have our camera outlets but no in-house audio. We're also prepared to provide coverage of legislative activities from both chamber parlors as events occur there.

Our non-contractual programming relating to the Legislature and related public policy discussion has included a series of hosted studio interviews and roundtables presenting various points of view on the current state budget discussion. Guests have included legislators, policy analysts, and interest group representatives. In addition, we've begun taping short video profile interviews with legislators that will air on the channel and also be available at wiseye.org. Our goal is to interview all members by June 2008.

Our state contract requires us to begin coverage of executive branch or judicial branch proceedings 18 months after final Capitol construction approvals or by May 2008. We've begun broadcasting the Supreme Court with live coverage of the September oral arguments. We're prepared to cover Executive Branch events in the Governor's and Attorney General's conference areas when coverage opportunities present themselves.

We've elected to build out our production center in the Hovde Building at 122 West Washington Avenue in phases so that we could begin broadcast operations as soon as possible. At present, we're equipped to produce two simultaneous live events from the Capitol, including all three branches of government—one event to air, both events live on the website. Our all-digital production system is at the forefront of technology among the nearly two dozen state public affairs channels now operating nationally.

In the next phase of our infrastructure build-out, which is contingent upon the availability of additional capital project funding, we'll equip two additional control points at our Hovde production center, which are currently just shells. With this additional equipment, we'll have the capacity to produce up to four live events simultaneously from the Capitol—one event to air, all four events live on the website. I invite the members of the committee, and all of your colleagues in the Legislature, to visit our facilities for a visit. I'm happy to make myself available for tours whenever it is convenient for individual members.

FEEDS

We're supplying a live feed of our legislative coverage to the Capitol press room. We're also in discussions, via the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association, with commercial and public broadcasters statewide about access to our coverage. We're also sending feeds to the Assembly and Senate. However, all third-party access to and redistribution of our content awaits adoption of the User Agreement required under our state contract.

We're engaged in discussions with both houses on the terms of the User Agreement, which is subject to approval by WisconsinEye and both committees on organization. We're intent on moving to approval and implementation as soon as possible.

DISTRIBUTION

WisconsinEye is committed to providing access to our programming to all state residents.

We're very happy to be partnered with Charter and Time Warner in making WisconsinEye available to more than 75 percent of households in Wisconsin. All households with digital converters served by those two systems have access to WisconsinEye. Attached is a state map that shows the Charter and Time Warner distribution areas. (**Attachment B, "Wisconsin Cable Systems"**) We're thankful to Charter and Time Warner for providing this valuable public service to the people and communities they serve.

The Internet and our website also are key to our distribution strategy. Since our May launch, we've logged more than 4,600 different visitors to our website and streamed nearly 1 million megabytes of video. Of that activity, more than 2,500 visitors have watched live coverage and streamed more than 600,000 megabytes of video. Per our state contract, all of our legislative meeting coverage is permanently archived at wiseye.org. We're in the process of building an indexed video search function that we expect to add to the website by the end of this year.

We recognize there's more work to do to achieve our shared goal of statewide access to all residents. We are pursuing that objective on a number of fronts:

- We're working with the cable industry, through the Wisconsin Cable Communications Association and also individual providers, to expand distribution beyond the Charter/Time Warner footprint.
- We're working with the telecommunications industry, through the Wisconsin State Telecommunications Association as well as individual providers, to make WisconsinEye available to customers of telco video services. We're also in discussions with AT&T about channel space on the planned U-Verse service.

- We're working to engage satellite television providers in a discussion about WisconsinEye, so far without success. We continue to diligently pursue satellite as a possibility for commercial distribution.

It must be recognized that the decision to carry WisconsinEye is made by the individual distributor, not WisconsinEye. Customer value is the most important factor in that business decision. Members of the Legislature and other elected state officials can play a key role in expanding distribution of WisconsinEye by 1) telling their constituents about the service and 2) letting their local providers know they value WisEye and want to see us in the channel lineup. My staff and I are committed to building first-rate programming. Under our partnership we need your help in making sure all state residents can view it.

We're also exploring distribution via public, state-supported networks:

- We're working with the Department of Administration to make WisEye available to BadgerNet video sites and Internet clients statewide. BadgerNet video clients include colleges and universities, technical colleges, elementary schools, libraries, and museums. BadgerNet already provides Internet access to our website at many TEACH-subsidized libraries across the state. A map of BadgerNet video sites is attached. (**Attachment C, "BCN, Managed Video Distance Learning Networks"**)
- We've also had preliminary discussions with Wisconsin Public Television about program sharing. We hope to continue those discussions in the near future.

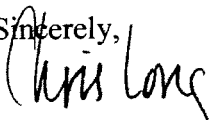
QUALITY CONTROL

I'm pleased to report that, so far, neither my staff nor I have received any complaints about our programming. We welcome feedback, both positive and negative. We can be contacted via mail, email and phone, including a toll-free number.

As might be expected, we've received a few technical questions and complaints about the streaming video on our website. Technical problems are often difficult to diagnose from a distance because there are so many variables affecting what happens at the user end. Our goal is to respond to all inquiries promptly and effectively.

We're pleased to submit this report on the substantial progress Wisconsin has made since beginning construction in the Capitol last November. We look forward to the work still to be done to expand our core coverage of state government and make our programming available to all state residents.

Sincerely,



Christopher Long
President & CEO



October 18, 2007

Wisconsin Legislature
State Senate
Special Committee
On Oversight of Senate Broadcasting
Senator Pat Kreitlow, Chair

Dear Senator Kreitlow:

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We're **engaged in discussions with both houses** on the terms of the User Agreement, which is subject to approval by WisconsinEye and both committees on organization. We're intent on moving to approval and implementation as soon as possible.

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1-15-08

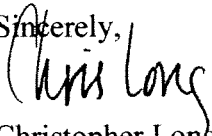
WPR

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We're pleased to submit this report on the substantial progress Wisconsin has made since beginning construction in the Capitol last November. We look forward to the work still to be done to expand our core coverage of state government and make our programming available to all state residents.

Sincerely,

Christopher Long
President & CEO





MEMORANDUM

TO: Special Committee on
Oversight of Senate Broadcasting

FROM: Robert J. Marchant
Chief Clerk and Director of Operations

DATE: October 18, 2007

RE: WisconsinEye License Agreement

This memorandum outlines the primary ways in which the license agreement between the State of Wisconsin and WisconsinEye affects the operations of the Wisconsin Senate. The memorandum also describes 2 concepts that the committee may wish to consider concerning the legislative protocols contained in the license agreement.

Role of Chief Clerk and Director of Operations

- Chief Clerk is the main point of contact for WisconsinEye concerning its day-to-day operations in the Senate.
- Strong working partnership between Chief Clerk and Chris Long, President of WisconsinEye. Goal has been to facilitate the operation of WisconsinEye as much as possible, with due respect for the decorum, authority, and traditions of the Senate.
- WisconsinEye e-mails schedule of proceedings that will be broadcast or recorded on the Friday before the week during which the proceedings will take place.
- Majority and Minority Leaders, President, and Sergeant-at-Arms are included on notification.

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- Any person who seeks to use WisconsinEye's footage must enter into a user agreement with WisconsinEye that prohibits use of the footage for political or commercial purposes.
- Agreement also applies to Senate staff who will be using WisconsinEye's feed to produce Senate educational and communication pieces.
- Agreement also governs how governmental employees should respond to open records requests for copies of WisconsinEye footage in their custody.
- WisconsinEye must sue to enforce user agreement.

- Fair use doctrine may make it difficult to prohibit political and commercial use (except by state employees, of course).
- Agreement is currently being negotiated under direction of Majority Leader.

Commencement of Recording/Broadcasting

- Sergeant-at-Arms must post notice that a proceeding is being recorded.
- WisconsinEye may begin recording up to 5 minutes before the noticed start time of the proceeding. Audio must be background only (sufficient to establish presence but not to communicate content).

Termination of Recording/Broadcasting

- Generally, transmission of signal must terminate 10 seconds after proceedings adjourn or recess. During the 10 seconds, audio must be background only and video must be the general view of the room.
- Standing informal does not result in termination of signal transmission but camera focus must be on podium and audio must be shut off.
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Potential Changes to Legislative Protocols

- Use of a button that would signal to the control booth that the Senate is adjourned or recessed. Currently, control booth must listen carefully to proceedings to determine whether Senate is adjourned or recessed. Cost may be a factor to consider, however, as well as perception of this being a "kill switch."
- Make oversight committee permanent, with power to vet complaints or suggestions, maintain institutional dialogue with WisconsinEye, and make recommendations to the Committee on Senate Organization.

institutional role

3x
1.M.
- JA -



MEMO

To: Members of the Special Committee on Oversight of Senate Broadcasting
Fr: Sen. Pat Kreitlow, Chairman

Re: Draft of Report to Senate Committee on Organization

Date: October 24, 2007

Please pardon my delay in getting this draft to you. Obviously the budget ~~and other~~
~~matter~~ took up a little bit of our attention. However, it appears there is no serious
mandate for widespread changes to the current protocols that govern broadcasting of
Senate proceedings, so I hope this report will be quickly and well-received by you. In ^{Friday}
fact, allow me to take the extra step of assuming I can present this to Senate Org by ~~the~~ ^{the Oct 26}
~~end of the week~~ if I do not hear from anyone asking for major changes.

Thank you very much for allowing me to serve you as Chairman for this group.

--DRAFT--

MEMO

To: Members of the Senate Committee on Organization
Fr: Sen. Pat Kreitlow, Chairman, Special Committee on Oversight of Senate
Broadcasting

Re: Report on Proposed Changes to Broadcasting Protocols

Date: October 24, 2007

Committee Meeting

The Special Committee on Oversight of Senate Broadcasting met on October 18, 2007 in accordance with the Agreement governing broadcasting of Senate Proceedings which dictates that such a committee review protocols within six months of WisconsinEye's first broadcast of legislative proceedings. The legislative protocols are contained in Article IV of the Agreement.

The Committee heard from Christopher Long, ~~President and~~ Chief Executive Officer of WisconsinEye. His written testimony is attached. Testimony was also given by Chief Clerk Rob Marchant and Sergeant-at-Arms Ted Blazel.

It is the Chairman's opinion that the protocols have been largely adhered to by WisconsinEye and that only one minor addition needs to be suggested to the Senate Committee on Organization for possible inclusion in the Agreement as is the Committee's unilateral right within these first six months of operation.

Protocol Review

The Chairman asked Christopher Long a series of questions related to the legislative protocols and members of the Committee asked additional questions relating to WisconsinEye financing and operations.

In short, to paraphrase the protocols, WisconsinEye has broadcast Senate proceedings in a professional, dignified and fair manner. Their camera shot selections have been consistent with the dignity and decorum of the Senate without embarrassing coverage or needless intrusions on private materials or conversations. WisconsinEye has worked with the offices of the Chief Clerk and Sergeant-at-Arms to ensure coverage schedules are published and that meeting rooms are given adequate notice regarding coverage.

Still lacking action from the protocols is a "code phrase" that the presiding officer can use to indicate to the WisconsinEye control room that broadcasting must be terminated immediately due to an intrusion from "a person not associated with the proceedings (who) presents a risk of bodily harm to those present."

Also missing is final approval of a User Agreement which would govern how any person or group may acquire and use the WisconsinEye signal. Language for a User Agreement has been approved by the Senate and is reportedly near approval in the Assembly.

Finally, the Chief Clerk's office is still awaiting an annual report on WisconsinEye's operating budget as covered in Section E (4) of the Agreement.

Suggested Modification to Protocols

The Committee members understand that the panel was created to provide a one-time review of the first six months of broadcasting, and there is no feeling among members that there needs to be a permanent oversight committee on Senate broadcasting which could lead to micromanagement of Senate proceedings. However, there may also be times when the Senate Committee on Organization wants to review broadcasting operations but would prefer to delegate those duties to a special committee.

Therefore, we would suggest a modification to the Agreement which states that "the Senate may at any time create a special committee to advise the Committee on Organization with regard to the operations of WisconsinEye, and that the President and Chief Executive Officer of WisconsinEye shall appear before that committee upon its request." You may also wish to make this a once-a-year requirement rather than an *ad hoc* panel to ensure continuity in legislative oversight.

It is the Chairman's opinion that the other suggestions forwarded to me informally over the past few weeks relate to minor operational advice (i.e. "Press" placards on the media tables, content of the on-screen title bars, etc.), and I feel we should all feel free to pass those along to Senate Org for possible forwarding to WisconsinEye.

It has been a pleasure serving you as Chairman of this Special Committee. Please do not hesitate to call on me for any questions or assistance.

PK/kjd

Attachments:

Written testimony from Christopher Long, WisconsinEye
Memo from David Lovell, Legislative Council





WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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

TO: STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS
FROM: Terry C. Anderson, Director *TCA*
RE: WisconsinEye Committee Coverage
DATE: January 16, 2008

WisconsinEye coverage of committee meetings is guided by established protocols. As chair of the standing committee, it is important that you are aware of these protocols as well as when camera and sound equipment are operating in your committee room.

Attached is a brief summary of the items you should keep in mind during your committee meeting. I hope this will serve as a guide reference for you. If you have any questions about WisconsinEye activities, please contact David Lovell at 266-1537.

Best of luck with your committee activities.

TCA:ty

Attachment

cc: Committee Clerks



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

WISCONSINEYE LEGISLATIVE PROTOCOLS: NOTES FOR COMMITTEE CHAIRS

5 Minutes Before Noticed Time of Meeting, Until Called to Order:

- Cameras may be recording, limited to a general view of the room, without close-up shots.
- Audio may be recording, at background level only.

During Meeting:

- Coverage must focus primarily on the Chair or a person recognized by the Chair.
- WisconsinEye must avoid shots that:
 - Discernibly show a member's papers or computer screen.
 - Are embarrassing, sensational, or invasive of private materials or conversations.

When Standing Informal or In Recess:

- Cameras may be recording, and must focus on the Chair's seat.
- Audio may *not* be recording.

Upon Adjournment:

- Coverage must end within 10 seconds, during which time:
 - Audio may be recording, at background level only.
 - Video coverage is limited to a general view of the room, without close-up shots.

Indications of When WisconsinEye is Recording:

- WisconsinEye posts its weekly recording schedule on its web site.
- Sergeant-at-Arms posts notice on the door of a room where WisconsinEye is recording.
- Red light indicates which camera is currently recording.

Additional Observations:

- Audio and video may be *on* at other times, for testing and monitoring activity in the hearing room, *but not recording*.
- Watch for open microphones – even at background level, WisconsinEye might pick up your conversation.
- In executive session, when holding the roll open after all other members have left, **explicitly recess the executive session to ensure that audio recording is turned off; reconvene the session to receive the vote of a member.**
- Strike the gavel clearly to convene and adjourn a meeting. This provides an important cue to WisconsinEye.





September 15, 2009

Dear Senator:

As the Senate begins the Fall 2009 session, I'm writing to catch you up on WisconsinEye's extensive coverage of legislative activity this summer following passage of the state budget in June as well as recent developments at the network.

The legislative committees of both houses have pursued a busy schedule of public hearings and executive sessions these past few months, most of which were broadcast either live or tape-delayed by WisconsinEye in their entirety and promptly made available on-demand in our archive of legislative coverage at wiseye.org. The volume of our committee coverage continues to far exceed the minimum requirements of our state contract. A complete listing of our recent committee coverage is attached.

We marked our second anniversary of broadcast operations this summer with the announcement that we'd entered into a long-term distribution agreement with Charter Communications after a two-year trial period during which we provided our signal to the cable companies at no cost. In this challenging business climate, Charter is to be commended for their strong support of the public service WisconsinEye provides to the communities and customers the company serves.

We were also delighted to welcome award-winning journalist Steve Walters as Senior Producer this month. A veteran state government reporter and former Capitol bureau chief for the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Steve brings more than 35 years of experience covering government and politics to the network. He will produce and host series programming dedicated to key public affairs issues statewide and also coordinate our 2010 election coverage.

With the Legislature expected to pursue an ambitious policy agenda this fall, WisconsinEye will continue to present the broad range of gavel-to-gavel debate while also providing in-depth enterprise coverage on-air and online of a number of key issues, including:

- Milwaukee Public Schools Governance
- Pay Day Loans
- Race to the Top Federal Education Funding
- Regional Transportation Authority
- Drunken Driving Reform

Regrettably, as you know, WisconsinEye was forced on the advice of legal counsel to terminate service to Time Warner Cable earlier this month because of our other contractual obligations. We've responded to numerous inquiries from members about this matter and will continue to keep you informed of any developments as well as answer any questions you or your constituents might have about these negotiations.

Sincerely,

Christopher Long
President & CEO



Wisconsin State Legislature Coverage – Summer 2009

Senate Committee Archive

09.03.09 | Senate Committee on Transportation, Tourism, Forestry, and Natural Resources

Executive session

- Senate Bill 113: the appointment of the secretary of natural resources and vacancies on the Natural Resources Board
- Senate Bill 234: the consumption of alcohol beverages in public places
- Senate Bill 241: modifying the definition of all-terrain vehicle
- Senate Bill 243: hunting of deer during the open bow hunting season
- Assembly Bill 8: municipal quotas for retail intoxicating liquor licenses
- Assembly Bill 86: authorizing hunting of certain game with a crossbow by nonresidents who have attained the age of 65 years
- Assembly Bill 308: police escorts and vehicle rights-of-way related to escorted vehicles

Public hearing

- Senate Bill 262: an exemption from recording for time-share licenses

09.02.09 | Senate Committee on Small Business, Emergency Preparedness, Technical Colleges, and Consumer Protection

Executive session

- Senate Bill 190: renewals and extensions of business contracts
- Senate Bill 200: products containing mercury and granting rule-making authority
- Senate Bill 226: emergency management, succession of public offices, liability and licensure of emergency volunteers, disaster relief, ratification of the pest control compact, transportation and disposal of animal carcasses, the plant industry, computation of school days, variance for hospital requirements, public works mutual assistance, emergencies related to computer or telecommunication systems, and providing penalties
- Senate Bill 227: interim successors for legislators
- Senate Bill 229: regional structural collapse teams
- Senate Joint Resolution 39: continuity of government

Public hearing

- Senate Bill 120: pleading requirements for assignees of creditors under the Wisconsin Consumer Act
- Senate Bill 242: separate regulatory requirements for future service contracts

09.02.09 | Senate Committee on Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs

Executive session

- Appointment of Rosemary Finora of Pewaukee as a member of the Employee Trust Funds Board
- Assembly Bill 33: technical changes that affect the public debt amortization fund of a first class city
- Assembly Bill 132: a requirement that an employer grant an unpaid leave of absence to allow an employee to participate in Civil Air Patrol

Public hearing

- Assembly Bill 165: expanding the types of property that may be specially assessed by a neighborhood improvement district
- Senate Bill 168: supervision of barber or cosmetologist apprentices
- Senate Bill 179: deceptive election practices

08.26.09 | Senate Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs, Biotechnology, and Financial Institutions

Executive session

- Senate Bill 195: adding a member to the council on veterans programs

Public hearing

- Assembly Bill 202: bulk transfers of inventory, and appointments to the Credit Union Review Board, the Banking Review Board, and the Deferred Compensation Board

08.19.09 | Senate Committee on Children and Families and Workforce Development

Public hearing

- The state's 2010 plan, goals and objectives to administer the federal Community Services Development Block Grant
- Senate Bill 30: underage persons possessing, consuming, or being provided alcohol beverages on licensed premises when accompanied by a parent, guardian, or spouse
- Senate Bill 257: emergency assistance grants

08.18.09 | Senate Committee on Judiciary, Corrections, Insurance, Campaign Finance Reform, and Housing

Executive session

- Senate Bill 40: public financing of campaigns for the office of justice of the supreme court
- Senate Bill 160: increasing the amount of the homestead exemption

Public hearing

- Senate Bill 93: partially exempting an assessor from liability for trespassing, creating immunity from civil liability, and changing the notice requirements related to the revaluation of property by an assessor
- Senate Bill 127: notification to the state and certain public agencies regarding a medical malpractice claim and limits on liability
- Senate Bill 203: claims for loss of society and companionship in medical malpractice cases
- Senate Bill 182: statute of limitations for intentional torts

08.18.09 | Senate Committee on Labor, Elections, and Urban Affairs

Public hearing

- Senate Bill 11: a requirement that all employers in this state grant a paid leave of absence on Veterans Day to employees who are veterans
- Assembly Bill 33: technical changes that affect the public debt amortization fund of a first class city
- Assembly Bill 132: a requirement that an employer grant an unpaid leave of absence to allow an employee to participate in Civil Air Patrol

08.18.09 | Senate Committee on Health, Health Insurance, Privacy, Property Tax Relief, and Revenue

Public hearing

- Senate Bill 87: increasing the maximum annual loan amount under the property tax deferral loan program of the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority
- Senate Bill 233: creating an individual income tax check off for the Special Olympics Wisconsin, Inc.
- Senate Bill 184: X-ray machine operator licenses and permits and creating a radiography examining board
- Senate Bill 191: podiatrists
- Senate Bill 163: requiring health insurance coverage of colorectal cancer screening
- Senate Bill 80: the Volunteer Health Care Provider Program
- Senate Bill 198: donating drugs and dispensing donated drugs

- Senate Bill 214: a real property tax exemption for snowmobile clubs
- Senate Bill 215: a personal property tax exemption for snowmobile clubs

08.13.09 | Senate Committee on Small Business, Emergency Preparedness, Technical Colleges, and Consumer Protection

Executive session

- Senate Bill 218: penalties and private actions for violations of restrictions on telephone solicitations

Public hearing

- Senate Bill 200: products containing mercury and granting rule-making authority
- Senate Bill 226: emergency management, succession of public offices, liability and licensure of emergency volunteers, disaster relief, ratification of the pest control compact, transportation and disposal of animal carcasses, the plant industry, computation of school days, variance for hospital requirements, public works mutual assistance, emergencies related to computer or telecommunication systems
- Senate Bill 227: interim successors for legislators, meetings of the legislature and legislative committees, and temporary seat of government for the legislature
- Senate Bill 229: regional structural collapse teams
- Senate Joint Resolution 39, relating to continuity of government

08.13.09 | Senate Committee on Transportation, Tourism, Forestry, and Natural Resources

Public hearing

- Senate Bill 241: modifying the definition of all-terrain vehicle
- Senate Bill 243: hunting of deer during the open bow hunting season
- Senate Bill 113: the appointment of the secretary of natural resources and vacancies on the Natural Resources Board

08.11.09 | Senate Committee on Agriculture and Higher Education

Public hearing

- Chuck Pruitt and Aaron Wingad to serve as members of the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin
- Senate Bill 42: a report on food safety programs
- Senate Bill 114: the use of pesticides by veterinarians and veterinary technicians
- Senate Bill 121: requiring the Center on Education and Work at the University of Wisconsin-Madison to establish a career conversions program
- Senate Bill 223: composition of the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System.

08.04.09 | Senate Committee on Commerce, Utilities, Energy, and Rail

Public hearing

- Senate Bill 224: notice of proposed vacation of certain highways

Executive session

- Senate Bill 185: regulation of wind energy systems

07.29.09 | Senate Committee on Judiciary, Corrections, Insurance, Campaign Finance Reform, and Housing

Testimony on sentencing modifications in the 2009 Budget Act and plans for implementation of sentencing policy.

07.22.09 | Senate Committee on Small Business, Emergency Preparedness, Technical Colleges, and Consumer Protection

Public hearing

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- Senate Bill 13: refunds of overcharges by commercial mobile radio service providers
 - Senate Bill 218: penalties and private actions for violations of restrictions on telephone solicitations
 - Senate Bill 190: renewals and extensions of business contract

07.16.09 | Senate Committee on Transportation, Tourism, Forestry, and Natural Resources

Public hearing

- Assembly Bill 8: municipal quotas for retail intoxicating liquor licenses
- Assembly Bill 83: issuing annual fishing licenses to certain resident disabled veterans
- Assembly Bill 86: authorizing hunting of certain game with a crossbow by nonresidents who have attained the age of 65 years
- Assembly Bill 308: police escorts and vehicle rights-of-way related to escorted vehicles
- Senate Bill 234: the consumption of alcohol beverages in public places
- Clearinghouse Rule 09-015: hunting and trapping regulations, closed areas and game refuges
- Clearinghouse Rule 09-031: the administration of the forest crop law and managed forest law

Executive session

- Assembly Bill 177: operating a motor vehicle while suspended, revoked, or disqualified
- Assembly Bill 178: motor vehicle operating privileges, seizures by courts or law enforcement officers of operator's licenses, and reinstatement of canceled identification cards
- Senate Bill 38: issuing annual vehicle admission receipts for motor buses for entry to state parks
- Senate Bill 103: restrictions on the operation of motor vehicles by persons using electronic text messaging devices

07.09.09 | Senate Committee on Education

Public hearing

- Senate Bill 41: indoor environmental quality in public and private schools
- Senate Bill 135: instruction in public schools on the history of organized labor in America and the collective bargaining process
- Assembly Bill 172: instruction in public schools on the history of organized labor in America and the collective bargaining process
- Senate Bill 154: school safety plans, pupil records, and school bullying

Executive session

- Senate Bill 89: requirements for pupils enrolled in five-year-old kindergarten

Assembly Committee Archive

09.08.09 | Assembly Committee on Education Reform

Informational hearing with the Board of Directors of Milwaukee Public Schools and administrative staff.

09.08.09 | Assembly Committee on Education

Executive session

- Assembly Bill 116: school conference and activities leave
- Assembly Bill 210: providing benefits and protections to tribal schools and tribal school pupils and staff

Public hearing

- Assembly Bill 115: instruction about history of the Hmong people
- Assembly Bill 140: income tax deduction for educators who use their own funds to purchase classroom educational supplies
- Assembly Bill 358: indoor environmental quality in schools

09.03.09 | Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice

Public hearing

- Assembly Bill 365: admitting prior testimony of a felony victim at a probation, parole
- Assembly Bill 351: the duty to stop at the scene of, and to report, a motor vehicle accident.

Executive session

- Assembly Bill 269: causing injury to a law enforcement officer while resisting or obstructing an officer
- Assembly Bill 280: seizure of a computer used to commit a crime and providing a penalty

09.02.09 | Assembly Committee on Natural Resources

Executive session

- Assembly Bill 138: the appointment of the secretary of natural resources and vacancies on the Natural Resources Board
- Assembly Bill 299: products containing mercury and granting rule-making authority
- Assembly Bill 314: pesticide use by railroads

Public hearing

- Assembly Bill 360: discharges of ballast water and aquatic nuisance species
- Clearinghouse Rule 05-058: minimum standards for county shoreland zoning ordinances
- Clearinghouse Rule 08-111: the management of accumulated sediment from storm water management structures

09.01.09 | Assembly Committee on Elections and Campaign Reform

Informational hearing

- Campaign Finance Information System (CFIS)

09.01.09 | Assembly Committee on Forestry

Testimony regarding Wisconsin's Managed Forest Law

08.27.09 | Assembly Committee on Corrections and the Courts

Public hearing

- Report from the Commission on Reducing Racial Disparities in the Criminal Justice System.
- Assembly Bill 344: costs of transporting by ferry an arrested person
- Assembly Bill 353: restoring the right to vote to certain felons
- Assembly Bill 364 Council on Offender Reentry

08.27.09 | Assembly Committee on Workforce Development

Public hearing

- Assembly Bill 266: support services information to employees who are affected by a business closing or mass layoff
- Assembly Bill 21: discharge from employment of a passenger-for-hire vehicle operator solely on the basis of having been involved in a single motor vehicle accident
- Assembly Bill 293: collection of workforce data on registered nurse and licensed practical nurse license renewal forms
- Assembly Bill 367: employment discrimination based on credit history

08.25.09 | Assembly Committee on Public Health

Executive Session

- Assembly Bill 186: salvinorin A
- Assembly Bill 227: program to monitor the dispensing of prescription drugs

- Assembly Bill 267: X-ray machine operator permits and creating a radiography examining board
- Assembly Bill 272: donating drugs and dispensing donated drugs
- Assembly Bill 273: podiatrist-patient privilege

08.25.09 | Assembly Committee on Judiciary and Ethics

Public Hearing

- Assembly Bill: statute of limitations for international torts
- Assembly Bill 387: homestead exemption

08.25.09 | Assembly Committee on Urban and Local Affairs

Public hearing

- Assembly Bill 66: pricing of retail sales of alcohol beverages
- Assembly Bill 67: alcohol beverages licenses
- Assembly Bill 106: underage persons possessing, consuming, or being provided alcohol beverages on licensed premises when accompanied by a parent, guardian, or spouse
- Assembly Bill 292: recording and filing documents with the register of deeds
- Assembly Bill 349: limiting the searchability of a governmental Internet listing of property taxes assessed

Executive session

- Assembly Bill 136: exempting an assessor from liability for trespassing, creating immunity from civil liability, and changing the notice requirements related to the revaluation of property by an assessor
- Assembly Bill 159: the charge-back of refunded or rescinded taxes

08.20.09 | Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice

Public Hearing

- Assembly Bill 181: operating a motor vehicle without a valid driver's license
- Assembly Bill 269: causing injury to a law enforcement officer while resisting or obstructing an officer or while attempting to flee Assembly Bill 280: seizure of a computer used to commit a crime and providing a penalty

Executive session

- Assembly Bill 181

08.19.09 | Assembly Subcommittee on Assembly Bill 193 Castle Doctrine

- Assembly Bill 193: privilege of self-defense

08.19.09 | Assembly Committee on Fish and Wildlife

Executive session

- Clearinghouse Rule 09-015: hunting and trapping regulations, closed areas and game refuges

Public hearing

- Assembly Bill 355: hunting of deer during the open bow hunting season
- Assembly Bill 371: privileges under a Class A or Class B bear hunting license, and bear carcass tag and back tag requirements

08.19.09 | Assembly Committee on Children and Families

Executive session

- Assembly Bill 164: notice of intent to remove a child from the home of a relative
- Assembly Bill 214: post termination of parental rights contact between a child and a birth relative of the child and disclosure of the report of an investigation of the home of a proposed adoptive parent on the request of the proposed adoptive parent

- Assembly Bill 296: children and their families who are involved in two or more systems of care
- Assembly Bill 297: relating to child abuse and neglect prevention grants
- Assembly Bill 298: relating to requiring notice to relatives when a child is taken into custody

Public hearing

- Assembly Bill 238: determining eligibility of certain persons for Medical Assistance without consideration of a spouse's income or assets
- Assembly Bill 374: emergency assistance grants

08.05.09 | Assembly Committee on Tourism, Recreation and State Properties

Executive session

- Assembly Bill 94: issuing annual vehicle admission receipts for motor buses for entry to state parks
- Assembly Bill 153: membership of the State Fair Park Board

Public hearing

- Senate Bill 188: use of golf carts in Governor Tommy G. Thompson Centennial State Park and Peshtigo River State Forest and granting rule-making authority
- Assembly Bill 295: the designation of smoking rooms in lodging establishments

08.05.09 | Assembly Committee on Children and Families

Public hearing

- Assembly Bill 164: notice of intent to remove a child from the home of a relative
- Assembly Bill 214: post-termination of parental rights contact between a child and a birth relative of the child
- Assembly Bill 296: children and their families who are involved in two or more systems of care and making an appropriation
- Assembly Bill 297: child abuse and neglect prevention grants
- Assembly Bill 298: requiring notice to relatives when a child is taken into custody and disclosure of information to relatives for the purpose of facilitating a relationship or placement

07.29.09 | Assembly Committee on Natural Resources

Public hearing

- Assembly Bill 299: products containing
- Assembly Bill 314: pesticide use by railroads

07.29.09 | Speaker's Taskforce on Preventing Home Foreclosures

Public hearing: foreclosures in Wisconsin.

07.28.09 | Assembly Committee on Natural Resources

Public hearing

- Assembly Bill 138: the appointment of the secretary of natural resources and vacancies on the Natural Resources Board

07.28.09 | Assembly Committee on Public Health

Public hearing

- Assembly Bill 227: program to monitor the dispensing of prescription drugs
- Assembly Bill 313: licensure fee for an emergency medical technician
- Clearinghouse Rule 09-019: relating to the practical examination

07.22.09 | Speaker's Taskforce on Preventing Home Foreclosures

Public hearing: foreclosures in Wisconsin.

07.16.09 | Assembly Committee on Transportation

Public hearing

- Assembly Bill 230: electronic access by law enforcement agencies to photographs on motor vehicle operators licenses and identification cards
- Assembly Bill 284: special identification cards providing parking privileges for persons with physical disabilities
- Assembly Bill 325: notice of proposed vacation of certain highways
- Senate Bill 91: the use of cellular telephones and other devices while operating certain motor vehicles transporting children
- Senate Bill 137: the definitions of motor bicycle and moped

07.16.09 | Assembly Committee on State Affairs and Homeland Security

Executive session

- Assembly Bill 316: emergency management, succession of public offices, liability and licensure of emergency volunteers, disaster relief, ratification of the pest control compact, transportation and disposal of animal carcasses, the plant industry, computation of school days, variance for hospital requirements, public works mutual assistance, emergencies related to computer or telecommunication systems
- Assembly Bill 317: interim successors for legislators
- Assembly Bill 319: regional structural collapse teams
- Assembly Joint Resolution 59: continuity of government

07.15.09 | Speaker's Taskforce on Preventing Home Foreclosures

Public hearing: foreclosures in Wisconsin.

07.14.09 | Assembly Committee on Public Health

Public hearing

- Assembly Bill 186: salvinorin A
- Assembly Bill 267: X-ray machine operator permits and creating a radiography examining board
- Assembly Bill 272: donating drugs and dispensing donated drugs
- Assembly Bill 273: relating to podiatrists

07.14.09 | Assembly Committee on Judiciary and Ethics

Public Hearing

- Assembly Bill 333: limiting disclosure of information gathered by news persons
- Assembly Bill 291: claims for loss of society and companionship in medical malpractice cases.

07.08.09 | Assembly Committee on Colleges and Universities

Public hearing

- Assembly Bill 135: individual income tax deduction for contributions by a divorced or legally separated parent to his or her child's college savings account or college tuition
- Assembly Bill 276: composition of the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System
- Assembly Bill 51: scheduling of classes at technical colleges

07.02.09 | Assembly Committee on State Affairs and Homeland Security

Public hearing

- Assembly Bill 316: relating to emergency management, succession of public offices, liability and licensure of emergency volunteers, disaster relief, ratification of the pest control compact, transportation and disposal of animal carcasses, the plant industry, computation of school days, variance for hospital requirements, public works mutual assistance, emergencies related to computer or telecommunication systems
- Assembly Bill 317: interim successors for legislators
- Assembly Bill 319: regional structural collapse teams
- Joint Resolution 59: continuity of government

07.01.09 | Assembly Committee on Consumer Protection

Public hearing

- Assembly Bill 19: requiring certain motor vehicle radios to include weather radio systems
- Assembly Bill 271: professional land surveyors and surveying land abutting navigable waters
- Assembly Bill 261: soliciting purchases of goods or services using unsolicited checks or money orders

06.30.09 | Assembly Committee on Public Health

Executive session

- Assembly Bill 154: prohibiting purchase of tobacco products for a minor
- Assembly Bill 57: permitting a mother to breast-feed in any public or private location where she is otherwise authorized to be

06.30.09 | Assembly Committee on Judiciary and Ethics

Public hearing

- Assembly Bill 304: ineligibility of convicted felons for licensure as lobbyists
- Assembly Bill 322: identification of individuals who examine statements of economic interests filed with the Government Accountability Board.

Executive session

- Assembly Bill 245: service by a former member of the legislature as a lobbyist
- Assembly Bill 224: the reimbursement rate for private attorneys appointed by the State Public Defender

Joint Committees Archive

08.27.09 | Joint Committee on Finance

Expenditure of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds, and requests from the Department of Transportation for the transfer of funds from state highway rehabilitation to interstate bridge construction

08.04.09 | Joint Legislative Audit Committee

Audit Letter Report: Wisconsin Shares Child Care Subsidy Program

08.04.09 | Joint Committee on Finance

Expenditure of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds and a request for approval of the purchase of two train sets for the Chicago-Milwaukee-Madison rail line.

07.29.09 | Joint Informational Hearing on Groundwater Protection

Testimony regarding groundwater protection in Wisconsin.

07.22.09 | Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules

Registration of Building Contractors

06.30.09 | Joint Committee on Finance

Expenditure of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds for maintenance and repair projects

Legislative Council Archive

08.20.09 | Special Committee on State-Tribal Relations (Parts 1 and 2)

Testimony regarding issues of concern to American Indians living in Milwaukee and other urban areas and the role of state government in addressing those issues.

08.13.09 | Special Committee on Strengthening Wisconsin Families

Training for foster parents; creating bills of rights for foster children and foster parents; youth who age out of foster care; creating a Family Policy Board.

07.15.09 | Special Committee on Strengthening Wisconsin Families

Training for foster parents; creating bills of rights for foster children and foster parents; extended court jurisdiction for certain foster youth under the age of 21 years; training for child welfare case workers.

WisconsinEye:

Complete coverage at your convenience

With 70 remote controlled camera locations inside the state Capitol, WisconsinEye captures state government action like no other organization can. Working under a seven-year licensing agreement with the State Legislature, WisconsinEye records all Senate and Assembly floor sessions, all Supreme Court oral arguments and many legislative committee meetings and executive branch events in their entirety and without commentary.

Broadcast operations commenced in May 2007 and today WisconsinEye is making good on its promise to deliver first-quality, nonpartisan coverage of public affairs statewide to a growing audience through Charter Cable Channel 995, Time Warner Cable Channel 163 and Wisconsin's BadgerNet Converged Network. Complete, live coverage and archival material also can be accessed on demand through www.wiseye.org.

Covering Civic Wisconsin

The WisconsinEye network provides an extraordinary means of communicating every aspect of public life in the state. From Bayfield to Beloit, WisconsinEye captures a broad range of public policy discussion and community activity. We call it covering "Civic Wisconsin."



Gov. Jim Doyle
(D) Wisconsin
Ballweg Chevrolet - Middleton, WI

June 01, 2009



WisconsinEye: Exceptional performance, statewide significance

During the 2009-2011 biennial budget deliberations, WisconsinEye provided residents with independent, gavel-to-gavel access to the state budget process for the first time in Wisconsin history. Meanwhile, the network has achieved unprecedented success as a technological gathering place for citizens and students of public policy thanks to in-depth coverage of civic events throughout the state.

This high-quality programming has been enthusiastically received and WisconsinEye's journalistic excellence has been recognized with a series of awards from the State Bar of Wisconsin, the Milwaukee Press Club and the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association. To support other media organizations in efforts to inform and engage citizens with government, WisconsinEye established partnerships with the Wisconsin Newspaper Association and Wisconsin Broadcasters Association in 2009 to provide content to local papers and broadcast stations through free licensing agreements.

Wisconsin State Senate
Floor Session
Wisconsin State Capitol

June 09, 2009



WisconsinEye: Leadership and innovation

WisconsinEye, a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation, is unique among the more than two dozen C-SPAN-inspired state networks in that it receives no direct or indirect state support, thus ensuring its editorial independence. A distinguished, bipartisan board of directors representing public policy, media and business sectors guides the network's operations and ensures its accountability.

In addition to funding from foundations, organizations and corporations, WisconsinEye is supported by fees from commercial distributors and plans to add program sponsorships to its revenue base. Private individuals interested in advancing WisconsinEye's mission can make a donation online at wiseye.org.



May 14, 2009
9:42 AM

Capitol Roundtable

Discussion of Major State Capitol News Stories

WisconsinEye Studios - Madison, WI

www.wiseye.org



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