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Details:

(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

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

**2009-10**

(session year)

**Assembly**

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

**Committee on ... Natural Resources  
(AC-NR)**

**COMMITTEE NOTICES ...**

- Committee Reports ... **CR**
- Executive Sessions ... **ES**
- Public Hearings ... **PH**
- Record of Comm. Proceedings ... **RCP**

**INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL**

- Appointments ... **Appt**
- Clearinghouse Rules ... **CRule**
- Hearing Records ... bills and resolutions
  - (**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: Mike Barman (LRB) (Sept/2010)

## Assembly

### Record of Committee Proceedings

#### Committee on Natural Resources

##### Assembly Bill 180

Relating to: changes to and extension of the Environmental Results Program, extension of the Environmental Improvement Program and the length of a compliance schedule under that program, and reporting requirements for certain environmental programs.

By Representatives Clark, Tauchen, Berceau, Bernard Schaber, Hebl, Jorgensen, Lothian, Molepske Jr., A. Ott, Parisi, Pope-Roberts, Richards, Ripp, Roys, Sinicki, Smith and Townsend; cosponsored by Senators Miller, Kedzie, Cowles, Erpenbach, Harsdorf, Holperin, Lassa, Lehman, Olsen, Plale, Risser, Schultz and Taylor.

April 02, 2009            Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

May 6, 2009            **PUBLIC HEARING HELD**

Present:    (15)    Representatives Black, Danou, Molepske Jr.,  
Steinbrink, Hraychuck, Hebl, Mason, Milroy, Clark, J.  
Ott, Gunderson, Huebsch, LeMahieu, Mursau and  
Nerison.  
Absent:    (0)    None.

##### Appearances For

- Rep. Fred Clark, Baraboo — 42nd Assembly District
- Sen. Mark Miller, Monona — 16th Senate District
- Sen. Neal Kedzie, Elkhorn — 11th Senate District
- Lori Grant, Madison — River Alliance of Wisconsin
- Pat Stevens, Madison — Wisconsin Builders Association
- Mark McDermid, Madison — DNR
- Paul Nelson, Madison — Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges

##### Appearances Against

- None.

##### Appearances for Information Only

- Caryl Terrell, Madison — Sierra Club--John Muir Chapter

##### Registrations For

- George Meyer, Madison
- John Sumi, Madison — Madison Gas and Electric
- Linda Bochert, Madison
- Sen. Jeff Plale, South Milwaukee — 7th Senate District
- Scott Manley, Madison — Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce
- Amy Boyer, Madison — 3M

Registrations Against

- None.

Registrations for Information Only

- None.

April 22, 2010

Failed to pass pursuant to Senate Joint Resolution 1.

John Maycroft  
Committee Clerk





**TO:** Assembly Committee on Natural Resources  
**FROM:** Scott Manley, Environmental Policy Director  
**DATE:** May 6, 2009  
**RE:** Assembly Bill 180 - Green Tier & Environmental Compliance Audit Reauthorization

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Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce (WMC) supports the passage of Assembly Bill 180, which would reauthorize and make programmatic improvements to the Green Tier and Environmental Compliance Audit programs. We respectfully request that you vote in support of this legislation.

WMC is the state's largest business trade association, with over 4,000 members in the manufacturing, service, health care, retail, energy, banking, insurance and other service sectors of our economy. WMC is dedicated to making Wisconsin the most competitive state to do business in the nation, and toward that goal, we support consistent, cost-effective and market-driven regulatory approaches that recognize a balance between environmental protection and the competitiveness of Wisconsin's jobs and economy. We believe Senate Bill 180 meets these objectives, and we appreciate the significant work Senator Miller, Senator Kedzie and other authors of the bill have put into this legislation.

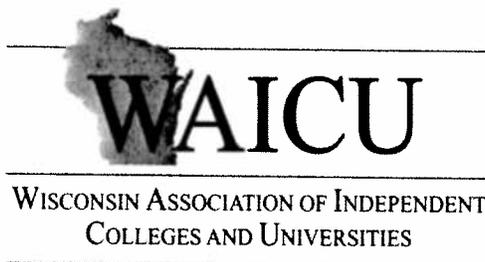
The Green Tier and Environmental Compliance Audit programs have proven to be mutually beneficial to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the business community in that these laws have enhanced environmental compliance, environmental performance and environmental protection.

WMC supported the enactment of these important laws in 2004, and believes it is critical that the legislature reauthorize these programs to allow their important work to continue. We also believe the programmatic changes proposed to both Green Tier and the Environmental Compliance Audit program will allow the DNR to more efficiently administer these programs, and will ultimately lead to a greater level of participation by the regulated community. The bill before you today is the culmination of many months of work by an advisory panel comprising stakeholders from the DNR, environmental groups, the business community and a bipartisan group of legislators.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of our support for Assembly Bill 180, and the reauthorization of both the Green Tier Law, and the Environmental Compliance Audit program. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, or if I can provide you with additional information, at (608) 258-3400 or smanley@wmc.org.



ALVERNO COLLEGE  
BELOIT COLLEGE  
CARDINAL STRITCH UNIVERSITY  
CARROLL UNIVERSITY  
CARTHAGE COLLEGE  
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY  
EDGEWOOD COLLEGE  
LAKE LAND COLLEGE  
LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY  
MARIAN UNIVERSITY



MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY  
MILWAUKEE INSTITUTE OF ART & DESIGN  
MILWAUKEE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING  
MOUNT MARY COLLEGE  
NORTHLAND COLLEGE  
RIPON COLLEGE  
ST. NORBERT COLLEGE  
SILVER LAKE COLLEGE  
VITERBO UNIVERSITY  
WISCONSIN LUTHERAN COLLEGE

TESTIMONY

on

**2009 Senate Bill 126**

**2009 Assembly Bill 180**

By

Pau Nelson, Senior Vice President for Public Policy  
Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities

**Assembly Committee on Natural Resources**

May 6, 2009

Chairperson Black and members of the committee, my name is Paul Nelson. I am the Vice President for Public Policy for the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, or WAICU, representing the 20 private colleges and universities in Wisconsin and their more than 59,000 students.

I am here today testifying in favor of proposed amendments to DNR's Environmental Improvement Program contained in Senate Bill 126 and Assembly Bill 180. These amendments would extend key aspects of that program beyond their current sunset of July 1, 2009. WAICU members are currently conducting voluntary environmental compliance audits under the program. The experience of these colleges exemplifies the type of environmental benefits the state is realizing through this program, and illustrates precisely the reasons this program needs to be extended.

Last year, WAICU entered into a joint agreement with Region 5 of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Wisconsin DNR to undertake, at WAICU members' expense, environmental health and safety audits, and to remediate any issues identified—also at the colleges' expense.

WAICU's initiative goes beyond a simple one-time identification and remediation of compliance issues: it is a unique program that creates a corps of rigorously trained "peer auditors" from each of the participating campuses, who then conduct the audits of the other campuses. Once the audits are completed, each college is left with at least one trained auditor plus an electronic auditing template that gives each institution tools for future compliance needs.

This project is unique in its scope, execution, and completion and has been recognized at national conferences and other national organizations for pioneering the use of flexible electronic templates to identify, manage, and document findings in a complex environmental audit; and using trained auditors from peer institutions to conduct the audits.

The DNR Environmental Improvement Program made all of this possible and that is why WAICU supports the provisions of Senate Bill 126 and Assembly Bill 180 that would extend this program beyond its July 1, 2009 sunset date.