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(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

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

**2009-10**

(session year)

**Senate**

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

**Committee on ... Transportation, Tourism,  
Forestry, and Natural Resources (SC-TTFNR)**

**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 Transportation, Tourism, Forestry, and Natural Resources**

##### **Senate Bill 545**

Relating to: payment by the Department of Transportation of the costs of relocating utilities beneath or adjacent to a highway in the village of Sauk City.

By Senators Schultz and A. Lasee; cosponsored by Representatives Hilgenberg and Clark.

February 17, 2010      Referred to Committee on Transportation, Tourism, Forestry, and Natural Resources.

March 10, 2010      **PUBLIC HEARING HELD**

Present:    (5)      Senators Holperin, Sullivan, Leibham, Kedzie and Grothman.  
Absent:    (2)      Senators Plale and Hansen.

##### Appearances For

- Dale Schultz — 17th Senate District
- Chuck Bongard — Village of Sauk City

##### Appearances Against

- Michael Baumann — WI DOT

##### Appearances for Information Only

- None.

##### Registrations For

- Steve Hilgenberg — 51st Assembly District

##### Registrations Against

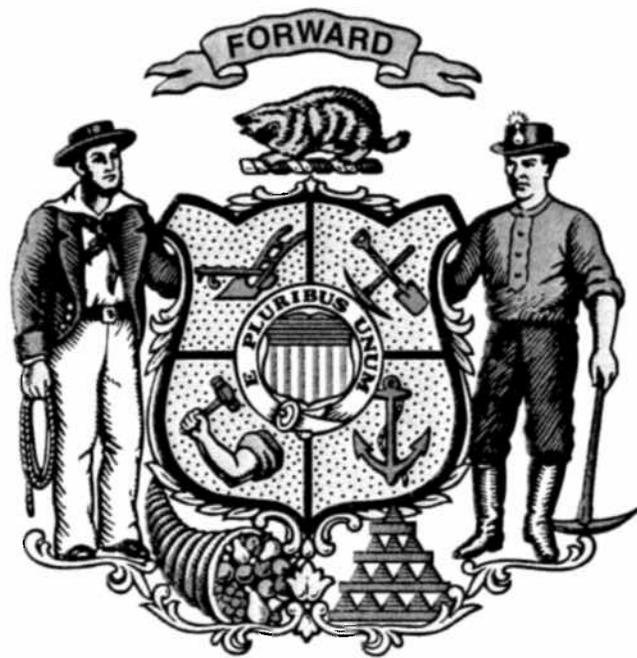
- None.

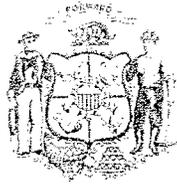
##### Registrations for Information Only

- None.

April 22, 2010      Failed to pass pursuant to Senate Joint Resolution 1.

Elizabeth Novak  
Committee Clerk





WISCONSIN STATE SENATE  
**DALE W. SCHULTZ**

DATE: March 10, 2010  
TO: Senate Committee for Transportation,  
Tourism, Forestry and Natural Resources  
FROM: Senator Dale Schultz  
RE: Senate Bill 545 – Highway 12 in Village of Sauk City

U.S. Highway 12 runs through the Village of Sauk City.

Most of Highway 12 through Sauk City will be reconstructed during a pending Wisconsin DOT project. The DOT project will widen the road to four lanes, entirely to accommodate increasing through traffic. The DOT project also lowers the road by a few feet to fix increased runoff from the wider roadway.

The lower road elevation requires relocation of Sauk City's recently-installed sewer, water and electric utility systems at an estimated cost close to \$600,000.

Were it not for the DOT's wider roadway, the village utilities would have served decades longer.

The DOT project will not be built in 2010 as scheduled because the Sauk City Village Board could not agree to a local cost share totaling more than \$1 million.

Sauk City utility rate payers and property taxpayers, already will be paying a local share for DOT's project estimated to exceed \$400,000. They cannot afford the additional burden to relocate utilities to accommodate through-traffic on a U.S. Highway.

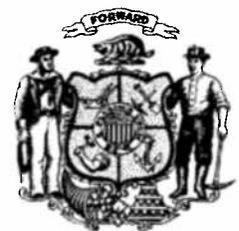
Under this bill, the DOT would pay utility relocation costs associated with its project.

There are precedents for DOT paying municipal utility relocation costs as part of a road project. Those precedents include the recent State Highway 78 project through the Village of Merrimac, just a few miles from Sauk City.

This bill provides equitable treatment to Sauk City residents and makes it possible for the state to move forward with a project on a road regularly designated as the official detour route when sections of Interstate Highway 90/94 are closed. During a period of flooding in 2008, I-90/94 traffic was detoured through the Village of Sauk City for three straight days.



# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE





STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**Steve Hilgenberg**



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**Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 545**  
**Senate Committee on Transportation, Tourism, Forestry, and Natural Resources**  
**March 10, 2010**

Thank you Chairman Holperin and committee members for hearing testimony on this important legislation.

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT) is in the process of reconstructing the U.S. Highway 12 corridor which runs through the Village of Sauk City, Sauk County. The DOT project will widen the road to four lanes, entirely to accommodate increasing through traffic. DOT's project also lowers the road by a few feet to fix increased runoff from the wider roadway.

The lower road elevation requires relocation of Sauk City's recently-installed sewer, water and electric utility systems at an estimated cost of \$585,000. Were it not for DOT's wider roadway, the village utilities would have served decades longer – local engineers estimate that the sewer and water systems have a remaining life expectancy of 50-70 years.

The DOT project will not be built in 2010 as scheduled because the Sauk City Village Board could not agree to a local cost share totaling more than \$1 million. Sauk City utility rate payers and property tax payers, already facing a local share for DOT's project in excess of \$300,000, cannot afford the additional burden to relocate utilities to accommodate through-traffic on a U.S. Highway.

Under SB 545, the DOT would pay utility relocation costs associated with its project. Precedents for DOT paying municipal utility relocation costs as part of a road project include the recent State Highway 78 project through the Village of Merrimac, wherein DOT paid 75% of the cost of the relocation of water and sewer utilities.

SB 545 provides equitable treatment to Sauk City residents and makes it possible for the state to move forward with an important reconstruction project.

Thank you and I urge your positive consideration of this bill.