

STATE OF WISCONSIN
Senate Journal
One–Hundredth Regular Session

MONDAY, June 27, 2011

The Chief Clerk makes the following entries under the above date.

CHIEF CLERK’S ENTRIES

AMENDMENTS OFFERED

Senate amendment 1 to **Senate Bill 117** offered by Senator Zipperer.

Senate amendment 2 to **Senate Bill 104** offered by Senator Zipperer.

Senate amendment 3 to **Senate Bill 104** offered by Senator Zipperer.

The Chief Clerk makes the following entries dated **Friday, June 24, 2011**.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

**State of Wisconsin
Office of the Secretary of State**

June 24, 2011

The Honorable, the Legislature:

<u>Bill Number</u>	<u>Act Number</u>	<u>Publication Date</u>
Senate Bill 15	Act 29	June 29, 2011

Sincerely,
DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State

**INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING, AND
REFERENCE OF PROPOSALS**

Read first time and referred:

Senate Bill 136

Relating to: a disclosure report for sellers of vacant land.

By Senators Schultz, Grothman and Olsen; cosponsored by Representatives Steineke, Rivard, Bies, Kerkman, Molepske Jr, Nass, A. Ott, Staskunas and Krug.

To committee on **Energy, Biotechnology, and Consumer Protection**.

Senate Bill 137

Relating to: making companies that hire persons who are not legally in the United States ineligible for certain tax exemptions, governmental contracts, grants, and loans, granting rule–making authority, and providing penalties.

By Senators Hansen, Wirch, Holperin, Erpenbach and Carpenter; cosponsored by Representative Staskunas.

To committee on **Labor, Public Safety, and Urban Affairs**.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

The committee on **Natural Resources and Environment** reports and recommends:

Senate Bill 110

Relating to: ambient air quality standards established by the Department of Natural Resources and the suspension of a rule promulgated by the Department of Natural Resources.

No recommendation pursuant to s. [227.19 \(6\)\(b\)](#), Wisconsin Statutes.

Senate Bill 111

Relating to: the regulation of indirect sources of air pollution and the suspension of a rule promulgated by the Department of Natural Resources.

No recommendation pursuant to s. [227.19 \(6\)\(b\)](#), Wisconsin Statutes.

NEAL KEDZIE
Chairperson

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

**State of Wisconsin
Office of the Governor**

June 27, 2011

To the Honorable, the Senate:

The following bill(s), originating in the Senate, have been approved, signed and deposited in the office of the Secretary of State:

<u>Bill Number</u>	<u>Act Number</u>	<u>Date Approved</u>
Senate Bill 26	Act 30	June 24, 2011
Senate Bill 54	Act 31	June 24, 2011

Sincerely,
SCOTT WALKER
Governor

**State of Wisconsin
Legislative Audit Bureau**

June 10, 2011

The Honorable, The Legislature:

As required by s. [13.94\(1\)\(dm\)](#), Wis. Stats., we have completed our annual financial audit of State Fair Park. We

issued an unqualified opinion on the financial statements State Fair Park prepared for fiscal year (FY) 2009–10, and we have continued to monitor efforts to improve its financial performance.

In FY 2009–10, State Fair Park’s operating revenue exceeded expenditures by \$1.6 million on a cash basis, largely because of positive operating results generated by the Wisconsin Exposition Center. These results, along with \$1.4 million in one–time funding received as part of the December 2009 acquisition of the Wisconsin Exposition Center, allowed State Fair Park to reduce the cash deficit in its program revenue operating appropriation to \$4.6 million as of June 30, 2010.

State Fair Park has begun to take steps to address concerns we raised in our prior audit regarding inadequate policies and procedures governing in–kind support, such as equipment or advertising, that it solicits from businesses in exchange for tickets to the Wisconsin State Fair and advertising exposure on the fairgrounds. However, because necessary changes were not fully implemented during FY 2009–10, we continue to report this weakness in internal controls, along with another financial reporting concern, in the Report on Internal Control and Compliance included in this report.

Finally, we note that operations of the Wisconsin Exposition Center, debt service payments related to the Exposition Center and the Pettit National Ice Center, and a continuing legal dispute with a former racetrack promoter may affect State Fair Park’s financial condition in the future and will warrant close attention by management and staff.

We appreciate the courtesy and cooperation extended to us by staff of State Fair Park. A response from the Chief Executive Officer follows the appendix.

Sincerely,
JANICE MUELLER
 State Auditor

**State of Wisconsin
 Legislative Audit Bureau**

June 16, 2011

The Honorable, The Legislature:

At the request of the Department of Workforce Development and to meet our audit responsibilities under s. 13.94, Wis. Stats., we have audited the financial statements of the State of Wisconsin Unemployment Reserve Fund. It funds regular unemployment benefits paid to eligible individuals and is funded primarily through taxes paid by employers. During the period we reviewed, certain other benefits funded by the federal government, including extended and emergency unemployment benefits, were also paid. This audit report contains our unqualified opinion on the Unemployment Reserve Fund’s financial statements and related notes for the years ended June 30, 2010 and 2009.

In the past ten years, the Fund’s balance has declined from a high of \$1.9 billion as of June 30, 2000, to a deficit in the amount of (\$920.4 million) as of June 30, 2010. As its reserves have been depleted, the Fund has borrowed from the federal government to pay unemployment benefits to eligible individuals. The balance owed to the federal government as of May 31, 2011, was \$1.3 billion plus an additional \$25.4 million in interest accrued on the loan as of that date.

Accompanying the financial statements is the Schedule of Cash Balance Related to Taxable Employers, which is used to determine the tax rate paid by employers. Section 108.18(3m), Wis. Stats., requires the highest tax rate schedule to be applied when the Fund’s cash balance as of June 30 is less than \$300 million. Consequently, the highest of four tax rate schedules is being applied in calendar year 2011.

We appreciate the courtesy and cooperation extended to us by Department of Workforce Development staff in completing the audit.

Sincerely,
JANICE MUELLER
 State Auditor

**State of Wisconsin
 Joint Legislative Council**

June 21, 2011

The Honorable, The Senate:

I am pleased to transmit to you the following reports to the 2011 Legislature on legislation introduced by the Joint Legislative Council as well as activities of its committees:

- RL 2011–01 Special Committee on Strategic Job Creation.
- RL 2011–03 Special Committee on Review of Higher Education Financial Aid Program (2011 Assembly Bill 141, 142, 143 and 144).
- RL 2011–04 Special Committee on Local Service Consolidation (2011 Assembly Bills 138, 139 and 140; and 2011 Assembly Joint Resolution 41).
- RL 2011–06 Special Committee on Review of Spousal Maintenance Awards in Divorce Proceedings (2011 Assembly Bill 134).

I would appreciate your including this letter in the Journal for the information of the membership. Additional copies of these reports are available at the Legislative Council Staff offices, One East Main, Suite 401, or from our web page at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/>.

Sincerely,
TERRY C. ANDERSON
 Director

**State of Wisconsin
 Government Accountability Board**

June 28, 2011

The Honorable, The Senate:

The following lobbyists have been authorized to act on behalf of the organizations set opposite their names.

For more detailed information about these lobbyists and organizations and a complete list of organizations and people authorized to lobby the 2011–2012 session of the legislature, visit the Government Accountability Board’s web site at <http://gab.wi.gov/>.

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|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Kussow, Michelle | Momentum Insurance Plans, Inc. |
| Scholz, Brandon | Momentum Insurance Plans, Inc. |
| Walsh, Kenneth | Computerized Vehicle Registration |

Also available from the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board are reports identifying the amount and value of time state agencies have spent to affect legislative action and reports of expenditures for lobbying activities filed by organizations that employ lobbyists.

Sincerely,
KEVIN KENNEDY
Director and General Counsel

Pursuant to Senate Rule [17 \(5\)](#), Senator Taylor withdrawn as a coauthor of **Senate Joint Resolution 28**.

**REFERRALS AND RECEIPT OF COMMITTEE
REPORTS CONCERNING PROPOSED
ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

The committee on **Labor, Public Safety, and Urban Affairs** reports and recommends:

Senate Clearinghouse Rule 10–135

Relating to licensure and certification requirements if licensed in another state or territory, approved instructors for educational programs and continuing education, examination requirements, rules of professional conduct, and “FIRREA” and AQB criteria.

No action taken.

VAN WANGGAARD
Chairperson