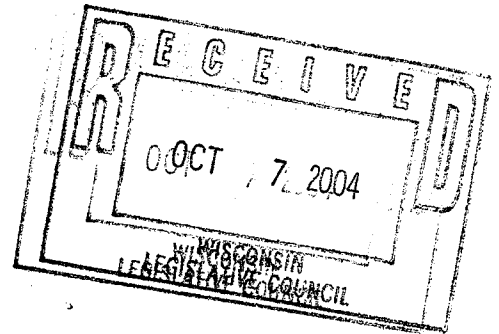




MENOMINEE INDIAN TRIBE OF WISCONSIN

P.O. Box 910
Keshena, WI 54135-0910



October 6, 2004

Representative Terry Musser
Chairman, State-Tribal Relations Committee
PO Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Representative Musser:

I would like to recommend two additional issues that I would like to have the State-Tribal Relations Committee study. These issues include:

1. FISHING REGULATIONS ENFORCEMENT

There are several large lakes within the boundaries of the Menominee Indian Reservation. The Menominee Tribe enforces tribal fishing regulations on the tribal members that utilize the lakes. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) is responsible for enforcing the state fishing regulations on the non-Indians utilizing the lake. Unfortunately, the WDNR does not have the personnel resources to adequately patrol the lake to make sure state regulations are being complied with.

As a result, the MITW is interested in determining the feasibility of assuming WDNR enforcement authority of Wisconsin fishing regulations. We would like to know what Wisconsin Statutes might have to be amended to give the WDNR the authority to grant the MITW this enforcement authority.

Related to the issue of a tribe assuming state powers is the question of a tribe waiving its sovereign immunity. It is often quite difficult for a tribe to do this so another question for the Study Committee might be what alternatives to the waiver might be available?

2. CHILDREN IN NEED OF PROTECTION OR SERVICES (CHIPS)

The Menominee Indian Tribe has the exclusive jurisdiction over child welfare cases involving Indian children residing in the Menominee Indian Reservation. However, federal and state funds for child welfare/protective services are forwarded exclusively to Menominee County.

The Menominee Indian Tribe would like the Study Committee to determine what steps are necessary for the Menominee Indian Tribe to directly receive these state and federal funds.

Your consideration of these issues will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joan R. Delabreau".

Joan Delabreau
Tribal Chair

cc: Mr. Terry Anderson, Director, Legislative Council