



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF MEMORANDUM

Memo No. 3

TO: MEMBERS OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AIRPORT AUTHORITIES

FROM: Scott Grosz, Staff Attorney, and Ronald Sklansky, Senior Staff Attorney

RE: Comparison of Airport Authority Legislation

DATE: November 7, 2006

The enclosed chart responds to a request from Mr. White, in his October 6, 2006 letter to Representative Stone, for a comparison of the legislation creating airport authorities in other states. The chart compares legislation governing four airport authorities with the legislation proposed by 2005 Assembly Bill 1089. The four airport authorities are the Columbus Regional Airport Authority (Columbus, Ohio), the Minnesota Metropolitan Airports Commission, the San Diego Regional Airport Authority, and the Wayne County Airport Authority.

The chart compares several characteristics of the selected airport authorities. Those characteristics are:

1. Whether the creation of the airport authority was permissive or mandatory;
2. Whether a referendum was required prior to formation of the authority;
3. The timeframe for transfer of assets from local government to the authority;
4. Whether a public body legal opinion must be issued prior to transfer;
5. Whether elected officials may serve on an authority's board of directors;
6. Whether the authority has powers of eminent domain, bonding, and taxation;
7. Whether a local government must be compensated for airport investments;
8. Treatment of an airport's outstanding obligations and debt; and
9. Whether the authority has policing authority.

SG:RS:jal
Enclosure