



Legislative Fiscal Bureau

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Joint Committee on Finance

Paper #729

Kickapoo Valley Reserve Information Technology Support (Tourism)

CURRENT LAW

The Kickapoo Valley Reserve has an annual GPR appropriation that funds information technology support services. This appropriation has base funding of \$17,800 annually.

GOVERNOR

No provision.

DISCUSSION POINTS

1. The Kickapoo Valley Reserve's information technology support appropriation is the Reserve's only GPR appropriation. The Reserve receives the rest of its funding from program revenue (camping and admissions fees, as well as \$31,300 in tribal gaming revenues annually for law enforcement services) and segregated revenue (\$203,700 in 2002-03 for general operations and \$224,500 in 2002-03 for aids in lieu of property tax payments, both from the forestry account of the conservation fund).

2. The conservation fund is a segregated fund used to finance many of the state's resource management programs. The fund is divided into 10 accounts, one of which is the forestry account. The forestry account collects revenues from: (a) the state forestry mill tax (20¢ per \$1,000 of property value); (b) the sale of timber on state forest lands; (c) the sale of stock from the state's tree nurseries; (d) camping and entrance fees at state forests; and (e) severance and withdrawal payments from certain timber harvests.

3. Forestry account revenues are used primarily to support the Department of Natural Resources forestry programs, including: (a) the operations of 23 state forests; (b) three tree nurseries; (c) prevention, detection and suppression of forest fires; (d) forest health and productivity;

(e) grants, loans and payments to certain towns, counties and private forest owners; (f) repayment of a portion of stewardship program debt; and (g) a portion of DNR administrative costs. In addition the forestry account supports certain costs of various other state agencies including the Wisconsin Conservation Corps, gypsy moth control by the Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection, and the Lower Wisconsin State Riverway Board.

4. The Committee could consider converting this appropriation from GPR to SEG from the forestry account of the conservation fund. The Kickapoo Valley Reserve contains 8,600 acres of forested land along the Kickapoo River north of La Farge in Vernon County. The Reserve's oversight of this land includes a forestry management plan and timber harvesting.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Delete the GPR appropriation for the Kickapoo Valley Reserve and transfer information technology support appropriation funding (\$17,800 annually) from GPR to SEG from the forestry account of the conservation fund.

<u>Alternative 1</u>	<u>GPR</u>	<u>SEG</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
2003-05 FUNDING (Change to Bill)	- \$35,600	\$35,600	\$0

2. Maintain current law.

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