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# Wisconsin Legislative Council



Anne Sappenfield  
Director

TO: MEMBERS, JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

FROM: Anne Sappenfield, Director

RE: Department of Justice Settlements for Approval

DATE: August 16, 2022

This memorandum summarizes two proposed case resolutions. For both cases, the Department of Justice (DOJ) seeks approval to request dismissal of the cases.

## **CALIFORNIA V. CHAO—AGENDA ITEM VI**

*State of California, et al., v. Chao, et al.* (Case No. 19-cv-02826, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia) was brought by a coalition of states, including Wisconsin, against Elaine L. Chao in her capacity as the Secretary of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). The case challenged a 2019 rule related to emissions and fuel-efficiency standards for cars and light trucks.

According to DOJ,<sup>1</sup> it would like to dismiss its claim because the rule at issue is no longer operative.

## **CALIFORNIA V. HAALAND—AGENDA ITEM VII**

*State of California, et al., v. Haaland, et al.* (Case No. 21-cv-440, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California) was brought by several states, including Wisconsin, and New York City against Interior Secretary Deb Haaland to challenge two Endangered Species Act rules that were promulgated in 2020.

According to DOJ, the plaintiffs plan to file for dismissal because the rules at issue have been rescinded.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly at the Legislative Council staff offices.

AS:ksm

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<sup>1</sup> See letter from Charlotte Gibson, Administrator, and Corey F. Finkelmeyer, Deputy Administrator, Division of Legal Services, DOJ, to JCF, dated August 3, 2022.