

STATE OF WISCONSIN
Assembly Journal
Ninety-First Regular Session

WEDNESDAY, November 30, 1994

The chief clerk makes the following entries under the above date:

COMMUNICATIONS

October 26, 1994

The Honorable Walter Kunicki
Speaker of the Assembly
212 North State Capitol
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Speaker Kunicki:

As Chairman of the Assembly Natural Resources Committee, I am appointing a Subcommittee on Land Use.

I have appointed the following Representatives to the Subcommittee on Land Use: I will Chair the Subcommittee, Rep. Peter Bock will serve as Vice Chair. Other members appointed to the Subcommittee include Representatives Bell, Ourada and Harsdorf.

Sincerely,
SPENCER BLACK, Chair
Natural Resources Committee

REFERRAL OF AGENCY REPORTS

State of Wisconsin
Department of Employment Relations
Madison

November 16, 1994

To the Honorable the Assembly:

Pursuant to s. 230.04 (13)(e), Wis. Stats., I am pleased to submit the FY 1994 report on employment of recipients of aid to families with dependent children (AFDC). This report includes: 1) a description of each agency's efforts to employ aid recipients and 2) the number of persons receiving aid under s. 49.19, Wis. Stats., employed by each agency and the job title or classification of each position filled from July 1, 1993, through June 30, 1994.

Please contact Kathryn A. Moore at 267-9898 if you have questions or need additional information regarding this report.

Sincerely,
JON E. LITSCHER
Secretary

Referred to committee on Children and Human Services.

State of Wisconsin
Department of Development
Madison

November 18, 1994

To the Honorable the Assembly:

Under Section 1.11 (2) (j), Wisconsin Statutes, the Department of Development is required to provide an annual report to the Legislature on the number of major actions it conducted during the 1993-1994 Fiscal Year and the number of environmental assessments and/or environmental impact statements that were prepared in accordance with those actions under s. 1.11 (2) (c), Stats.

I am respectfully submitting our report to the Legislature in the manner provided in section 13.172 (2), Wisconsin Statutes.

Sincerely,
MOOSE SPEROS
Acting Secretary
Department of Development

Referred to committee on Natural Resources.

State of Wisconsin
Wisconsin Gaming Commission
Madison

November 21, 1994

To the Honorable the Legislature:

I am submitting the September 30, 1994, quarterly report of the Wisconsin Gaming Commission as required by s. 565.37(3), Wis. Stats., Lottery sales and financial information and s. 562.02(1)(g), Racing statistical information.

If there are any questions or comments regarding this report, please do not hesitate to contact me or Maureen Hlavacek, Administrative Services Administrator.

Sincerely,
JOHN M. TRIES
Chairman, Wisconsin
Gaming Commission

Referred to Special Committee on Gambling Oversight.

COMMUNICATIONS

State of Wisconsin
Legislative Audit Bureau
Madison

November 16, 1994

To the Honorable the Legislature:

We have completed an evaluation of the Office of the State Public Defender, as requested by the Joint Legislative Audit Committee. The Office provides constitutionally required legal representation to indigent persons who have been charged with crimes for which the potential sentence could include incarceration, as well as representation in other cases specified by statute.

The Office's budget has grown \$25.6 million, or 75.7 percent, between fiscal year (FY) 1989-90 and FY 1993-94. This growth was caused by several factors: caseload increases, 34 percent; compensation increases for state staff and the private bar, 33.2 percent; staff workload decreases, 17.2 percent; private bar cost increases other than compensation, 8.6 percent; and administrative and other costs, 7 percent.

The primary factors affecting the Office's budget are determined by external forces, such as increases in caseload and statewide salary negotiations. Nevertheless, several other factors that affect costs, such

as efficiency and effective administration, can be influenced by management. We include recommendations for the Office to begin verifying indigence claims, instead of following the current practice of accepting clients' unsupported statements and to begin collection efforts against clients whose financial situation improves. We also include recommendations for the Office to improve its monitoring of private attorneys, including reviewing for potential billing fraud, as well as reviewing the quality and efficiency of representation. In addition, we include a recommendation for the Office to fully implement a 1983 statutory directive to establish a case management system.

A number of staff in the Office raised concerns about the Office's personnel practices. Because these were outside the scope of our audit, we did not investigate these concerns but have forwarded them to the State Public Defender in a separate management letter.

We appreciate the courtesy and cooperation extended to us by staff in the Office of the State Public Defender. The Office's response to the audit is the appendix.

Respectfully submitted,
DALE CATTANACH
State Auditor