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(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ... PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS

2011-12

(session year)

Assembly

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on Natural Resources...

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

Committee Reports ... CR

Executive Sessions ... ES

Public Hearings ... PH

INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

Appointments ... Appt (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)

Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)

Hearing Records ... bills and resolutions (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)

(ab = Assembly Bill)

(ar = Assembly Resolution)

(ajr = Assembly Joint Resolution)

(sb = Senate Bill)

(**sr** = Senate Resolution)

(**sjr** = Senate Joint Resolution)

Miscellaneous ... Misc

Senate

Record of Committee Proceedings

Committee on Natural Resources and Environment

Senate Bill 288

Relating to: federal financial hardship assistance under the Clean Water Fund Program (suggested as remedial legislation by the Department of Natural Resources). By Law Revision Committee.

November 14, 2011 Referred to Committee on Natural Resources and Environment.

December 7, 2011 PUBLIC HEARING HELD

Present: (7) Senators Kedzie, Moulton, Wanggaard,

Galloway, Wirch, Holperin and C. Larson.

Absent: (0) None.

Excused: (0) None.

Appearances For

• Jeanne Cargill — WI Department of Natural Resources

Appearances Against

• None.

Appearances for Information Only

• None.

Registrations For

• None.

Registrations Against

• None.

Registrations for Information Only

• None.

December 14, 2011 **EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD**

Present: (7) Senators Kedzie, Moulton, Wanggaard,

Galloway, Wirch, Holperin and C. Larson.

Absent: (0) None. Excused: (0) None.

Moved by Senator Holperin, seconded by Senator Wanggaard that **Senate Bill 288** be recommended for passage.

Ayes:

Noes:

(7) Senators Kedzie, Moulton, Wanggaard, Galloway, Wirch, Holperin and C. Larson.

(0) None.

PASSAGE RECOMMENDED, Ayes 7, Noes 0

Dan Johnson

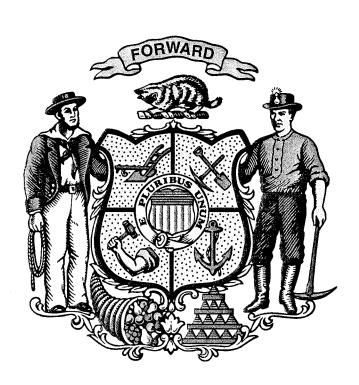
Committee Clerk

Vote Record Committee on Natural Resources

Date: March 7, 2012 Moved by:	↑ Seconded I	by: Moleps	iko	
	2000		le	
AR SR		Other		
A/S Amdt				
A/S Amdt	to A/S Amdt			
A/S Sub Amdt				
A/S Amdt	to A/S Sub Amdt			
A/S Amdt	to A/S Amdt	to A/S Sub Amdt		
□ Introduction □ Rejection	☐ Confirmation☐ Tabling	Concurrence Nonconcurrence	□ Indefinite P	·
Committee Member		<u>Aye</u> <u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	Not Voting
Representative Jeffrey Mursau, Chair				
Representative Roger Rivard		$Q_{j} \square$		
Representative Mary Williams				
Representative Joel Kleefisch				
Representative Lee Nerison				
Representative Erik Severson				
Representative Jim Steineke				
Representative Thomas Tiffany				
Representative Duey Stroebel				
Representative Michelle Litjens				
Representative Louis Molepske Jr				
Representative Cory Mason				
Representative Chris Danou				
Representative Fred Clark				
Representative Nick Milroy				
Representative Brett Hulsey				
	Total	s:		

☐ Motion Failed

☐ Motion Carried



State of Wisconsin
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
101 S. Webster Street
Box 7921
Madison WI 53707-7921

Scott Walker, Governor Cathy Stepp, Secretary Telephone 608-266-2621 Toll Free 1-888-936-7463 TTY Access via relay - 711



STATE OF WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT

TESTIMONY PRESENTED on **SENATE BILL 288** February 1, 2012

INTRODUCTION

Good morning Representative Mursau and members of the Committee. My name is Jeanne Cargill. I've served in the Department of Natural Resources' Clean Water Fund Program for 19 years. Senate Bill 288 removes some of the existing statutory language from the portion of the statutes that governs the Clean Water Fund Program.

In 1996, the Federal Government appropriated \$50 million for a federal Hardship Grant Program for Rural Communities. Because Wisconsin already had a Clean Water Fund Financial Hardship Assistance Program, and because the federal criteria made it difficult to locate municipalities in Wisconsin that could meet the hardship criteria, we determined the best way to make sure we could utilize the federal grant money was to incorporate the federal program into our own hardship program.

In 1998, the Wisconsin legislature passed a bill that included new statutory language to allow the Clean Water Fund Program to accept and utilize a one-time grant of \$1,355,800 from the federal government to provide federal assistance to a community facing financial hardship. The U.S. EPA published guidelines in March 1999 for administering this federal grant program through the Clean Water State Revolving Funds.

Wisconsin received its federal grant in May 1999. After much effort, we located a Wisconsin municipality that met the federal hardship assistance criteria, and in 2002 provided Fulton Sanitary District No. 2 a grant of \$1,458,668 and a 0% interest loan of \$210,643 for their wastewater treatment project.



The Fulton project utilized the entire \$1,355,800 federal hardship grant. There is no indication from the federal government that there will ever again be an appropriation of funds for the federal Hardship Grant Program for Rural Communities.

This bill removes all references to and provisions for the federal Hardship Grant Program for Rural Communities from the Wisconsin Statutes. By passing SB 288, the Wisconsin legislature would clean up the Clean Water Fund Program statutes and provide clarity in the hardship assistance section of the statutes making the language much easier for the Program's customers to read and understand.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this bill. I'd be happy to answer any questions you might have.