



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2003 Senate Bill 394

**Senate
Substitute Amendment 1**

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Senate Bill 394 relates to information about real property purchased with stewardship money and public access to that property.

Senate Substitute Amendment 1 does the following:

- Directs the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to establish and maintain a free interactive mapping tool at its web site, within 18 months after the bill's effective date, that identifies all land purchased under the stewardship programs that is open to the public.
- Directs the DNR to publish a directory of all land purchased under the stewardship programs that is open to the public within 18 months after the bill's effective date. The directory must be organized by county and town, identify the legal description of the location of the land, and be updated every two years. The DNR may charge a fee for the directory to recover its costs of publication of the directory. In lieu of it publishing this directory, the DNR may provide to the public a map, book, or directory published by a private entity provided that this document is provided at the DNR's cost and that the document meets the content requirements specified in the substitute amendment for the directory prepared by the DNR.
- Directs the owner of land purchased under the stewardship programs to provide notice of public access to that land by the placement of signs adequate to give notice adjacent to the land. For land purchased before the bill's effective date, this notice must be provided within 18 months after the effective date.
 - The signs providing this notice must be at least 108 square inches and made of a durable substance.
 - The signs must be placed at the major access points to the property, or if the property is surrounded by DNR land, at the major access points to the DNR land.

- The signs must include information on the primary activities that are restricted or prohibited on the land, and give the name and telephone number of the owner of the property or a person to contact regarding the land. In addition, signs must also be placed at the specified major access points that give notice that the land was acquired in whole or in part using stewardship program funds.
- If the owner fails to comply with these notice and signage requirements, that person is not eligible for any program or grant under the stewardship programs until the DNR determines that the person is in compliance with these requirements.
- Requires the DNR to submit a biennial report to the Legislature that lists all land purchased under the stewardship programs for which public access has been restricted or prohibited and the reasons for that action.
- Establishes that if the DNR authorizes a nonprofit conservation organization to charge a fee for hunting on property purchased under the stewardship programs, the fee for the hunting season may not exceed the amount of the daily resident vehicle admission fee to state parks (currently \$5).

Legislative History

On February 23, 2004, the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources recommended introduction and adoption of Senate Substitute Amendment 1 and passage of Senate Bill 394, as amended, on separate votes of Ayes, 4; Noes, 1.

JES:ksm:tlj;jal;rv