

WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2013 Senate Bill 596	Senate Amendment 1
Memo published: February 27, 2014	Contact: Rachel Letzing, Senior Staff Attorney (266-3370)

Current Law

Current law specifies that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) must designate a system of state trails as part of the state park system for use by equestrians, bicyclists, riders of electric personal assistive mobility devices, cross-country skiers, or hikers. Current law also requires the DNR to inspect designated features and trail signs on state trails twice a year. This inspection requirement does not apply to snowmobile trails on land under DNR control that are maintained by snowmobile clubs or other nonprofit organizations.

2013 Senate Bill 596

Senate Bill 596 removes the list of specified uses for the state trail system. The DNR has interpreted this list as not being exclusive and has already allowed other types of uses on state trails. In addition, the bill adds a new provision which authorizes the DNR to include water trails in the state trail system.

Senate Amendment 1

Senate Amendment 1 exempts water trails from the current law requirement for DNR to inspect designated features and trail signs on state trails twice a year.

Bill History

Senate Amendment 1 was offered by Senator Olsen on February 26, 2014. On the same date, the Senate Committee on Natural Resources recommended adoption of Senate Amendment 1 on a vote of Ayes, 5; Noes, 0, and recommended passage of the bill, as amended, by the same vote.

REL:ty