



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P. O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882

Senate Bill 360 – DOT Red Tape Review

Testimony from Senator Jerry Petrowski and Representative Keith Ripp

January 7, 2016

Good morning, and thank you for allowing me to testify on Senate Bill 360.

Last session, the Assembly began the task of reviewing the nearly 2,000 chapters of the Wisconsin Administrative Code to cut government red tape, remove burdensome rules, and simplify the code to improve everyday lives for our state's citizens. This session, we now continue that task as part of the "Red Tape Review" Process.

As part of that process and in conjunction with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Representative Keith Ripp and I have brought forward this Transportation Omnibus Bill that will directly amend portions of the Transportation Administration Code in twenty-eight different chapters. A vast majority of these changes are minor and technical changes, including correcting obsolete references and references to defunct programs and updating or repealing provisions that are inconsistent with current statutes and federal rules or that were created based on statutes that have since been amended or repealed.

My staff has distributed a packet of information pertaining to the various changes. Nate Yahn and Tom Rhatican from the Department of Transportation are here to discuss the chapters affected, but I would be happy to answer any questions you may have on the bill as a whole.

I would like to note that the Assembly Transportation Committee passed this bill in December with a vote of 14-0.

Thank you again for your time and attention to this comprehensive package.



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DATE: January 7, 2016

TO: Members, Senate Committee on Transportation and Veterans Affairs
The Honorable Jerry Petrowski, Chair

FROM: Tom Rhatican, Assistant Deputy Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Transportation

SUBJECT: Senate Bill 360 (modifying & repealing various rules promulgated by DOT)

Chairman Petrowski and Committee Members:

I would like to provide some important background information to committee members as you consider 2015 Wisconsin Senate Bill 360 (SB 360). SB 360 makes various minor and technical changes to over 25 code sections in the Wisconsin Administrative Code. The Department supports SB 360.

As part of the Legislature's "Red Tape Review" initiative, this bill includes a number of corrections to obsolete statutory references and references to outdated programs. In addition, the bill also updates or repeals provisions that are inconsistent with current state statutes and federal rules. The proposed changes will streamline existing regulations and help create greater efficiencies in state government.

NOTE: A summary of the proposed changes to each DOT rule made under this bill, including a brief description and rationale, has also been made available to committee members.

Following the successful "Right the Rules" initiative from last session, SB 360 is another example of the continued commitment from Governor Walker's Administration and members of the Legislature to reduce regulatory burdens on Wisconsin employers and help make government operate more efficiently.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Nate Yahn, WisDOT legislative advisor, at (608) 266-1114.