

State of Wisconsin GOVERNOR'S STATE TRAILS COUNCIL

RESOLUTION To Request Amendments to Senate Bill 226

Whereas the Governor's State Trails Council is an independent forum for finding solutions to trail problems for both motorized and non-motorized groups, and is a statewide advocate for public/private cooperation in funding and management of trail systems; and

Whereas more than half of the State's residents are Park and Recreational Trail users and less than twenty five percent of the State's residents are hunters and trappers; and

Whereas the numbers of hunters and trappers are decreasing and park and trail users are increasing; and

Whereas five million acres of public land are open for hunting and trapping, while Park and Trail acreage is less than 1% of public lands; and

Whereas the proposed bill would significantly reduce public input into the planning process of specific properties; and

Whereas most State Parks already provide for specific hunting seasons based on ecological prescriptions; and

Whereas passage of the bills would compromise public safety on or near many properties and easements near high population areas,

It is therefore RESOLVED that the Governor's State Trails Council requests that the Wisconsin State Senate amend Senate Bill 226 to include public input into the inclusion of any additional hunting and trapping on State Parks and Trails, and to respect the wishes of those who sell lands and easements for State Parks and Trails.

Be it Further Resolved that the Governor's State Trails Council requests the Natural Resources Board to include the foregoing when making determinations regarding land use policies on public lands.

***Passed the eighth day of December 2011
by the Governor's Wisconsin State Trails Council.***