

CO-SPONSORSHIP MEMORANDUM

TO: All Legislators

FROM: Representatives Jesse Kremer and Cody Horlacher, Senator Duey Stroebel

DATE: Wednesday, September 20

RE: (Bill 3 of 4) ***"Air Quality & Economic Opportunity" Reforms Package***: Co-sponsorship of LRB-4025/1 and LRB-4288/1, relating to Department of Natural Resources rules and regulation of air pollutants.

DEADLINE: Thursday, September 28 at 5:00 p.m.

Government agencies operated by unelected bureaucrats at the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have promoted some burdensome regulations that have either not been grounded in sound science or updated to reflect current realities. As a result, the EPA and DNR have stifled economic growth in Wisconsin by creating artificial, government-sanctioned inequality from one region to the next. These areas have been dubbed "No Growth Zones." Many of these well-intentioned but misguided regulations have had negative effects on family-supporting jobs, small businesses, and the quality of life for middle and fixed-income families and individuals.

Currently, the DNR regulates nearly 300 more hazardous air pollutants than what is required by federal law, and of those regulated less than a third are actually emitted. This creates an undue burden on Wisconsin businesses, forcing them to arbitrarily test for pollutants that aren't being emitted and otherwise are unregulated by other states and the EPA. This sort of overbearing regulation may be manageable to large businesses, but still stands as a barrier to expansion and growth, and an outright road block for small businesses or startups.

LRB-4025 & 4288 fixes this issue by simply aligning DNR air pollutant regulations with current federal standards as a baseline by repealing all regulations on pollutants not regulated by federal law. In the future, the DNR can still promulgate rules concerning pollutants, but those rules would need to be re-promulgated every 10 years after taking effect. This ensures any ongoing regulations over and above federal requirements must go through the REINS Act process.

These reckless policies contribute to a lack of economic growth and a reduction in job opportunities for hard-working lower and middle income families. These failed bureaucratic policies and red tape create a ripple effect that leaves businesses and hardworking taxpayers stranded on an island of artificial marketplace regulation. Now is the time to liberate our "No Growth" zones.

To be added on as a co-sponsor of this legislation, please reply to this email or contact Nik in Rep. Kremer's office at 6-9175 or Brian in Sen. Stroebel's office at 6-7513 by **Thursday, September 28th**. All co-sponsors will be added to the corresponding companion version of the bill unless specified otherwise.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires the Department of Natural Resources to identify and repeal all administrative rules promulgated by DNR that relate to the regulation of air pollutants that are not regulated under federal law. The bill also provides that any rule promulgated by DNR that relates to the regulation of an air pollutant that is not regulated under federal law expires ten years after the rule takes effect. The bill provides that DNR may promulgate a rule to readopt an expiring rule using the standard rule-making process no sooner than the year prior to the rule's expiration.