



State Senator
Chuck Chvala
SENATE MAJORITY LEADER

March 22, 2001

Representative Scott Jensen
Assembly Speaker
211 West, State Capitol
HAND - DELIVERED

Dear Speaker Jensen,

I have received information indicating that the Assembly Republicans are interested in extending the March floor period for purposes of considering legislation to protect Wisconsin wetlands threatened by the U.S. Supreme Court decision in SWANCC v. Army Corp of Engineers.

Attached is a ballot of the Senate Organization Committee which with your agreement will allow consideration of legislation to enact a moratorium on the destruction of wetlands (Senate Bill 54 and Assembly Bill 215) and restoration of wetland protection (Senate Bill 37 passed by the Senate February 13th on a 27-6 vote).

As you know, Senate Bill 37 was introduced January 31st, had a February 1st public hearing at which over eight hours of testimony on the legislation was taken, passed the Senate on February 13th on a bipartisan 27-6 vote and has been available for action by the Assembly since that time. Suggesting that the Assembly has not had adequate time to examine SB 37 is ludicrous. I urge you to therefore allow consideration of this comprehensive legislation concurrent with moratorium legislation.

I would also note at this time that on a bipartisan vote of 22-11 the Senate rejected a July 1st sunset on a wetland destruction moratorium.

If your true objective is to extend the floor period for consideration of legislation to protect Wisconsin wetlands Senate Bill 37 must be included and willingness to compromise on the end date of a wetland destruction moratorium must be included in our discussions. Please feel free to contact me directly if you care to discuss this issue.

Sincerely,

Chuck Chvala
Senate Majority Leader

