



JERRY PETROWSKI

WISCONSIN STATE SENATOR

Assembly Bill 516 / Senate Bill 494 *DWD Traveling Sales Crews*

January 29, 2014

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, for the opportunity to speak today on Assembly Bill 516 and Senate Bill 494.

The Department of Workforce Development is responsible for promulgating administrative rules for traveling sales crews. The bills before us would help to remedy two issues faced by traveling sales crews; the first regarding payment for services, and the second regarding proper forms of identification.

Currently, the employer of a traveling sales crew must provide payment to its employees on “regularly agreed upon pay dates.” This bill clarifies that timetable by providing that pay dates can be no less often than semi-monthly. Additionally, this bill gives employees of traveling sales crews the option to receive their pay statements electronically, instead of by paper paycheck.

Right now, if a business recruits or uses traveling sales crews in Wisconsin, that business must secure sales permits for each crew member through the Department of Workforce Development. When entering a community, traveling sales crew members must have these permits stamped by the municipal clerk. Additionally, each sales crew member must carry the permit with them at all times while engaged in business-related activity, and present it upon request to customers or police officers. This bill clarifies that the sales crew worker permit and identification card are in fact one document, and not separate forms.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on this topic. I’m happy to answer any questions you may have.

29TH SENATE DISTRICT

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**Committee on Workforce Development, Forestry, Mining, and Revenue
Senate Bill 494 and Assembly Bill 516**

January 29, 2014

Testimony provided by BJ Dernbach, Legislative Liaison and Joe Handrick, Division Administrator

Chairperson Tiffany and members of the Senate Committee on Workforce Development, Forestry, Mining, and Revenue:

I am BJ Dernbach, Legislative Liaison at the Department of Workforce Development, along with Joe Handrick, the Division Administrator for the Department of Equal Rights. I come before you today in support of Senate Bill 494 and Assembly Bill 516, which pertains to rule changes to the administrative code governing travelling sales crew operations.

DWD 273 is a relatively new rule but the department has recognized the need to update and clarify section 273.08, payment and compensation, and 273.11, travelling sales crew worker permits. The changes in the bill clarifies that the employer of a travelling sales crew provide payment to its employees on regularly agreed upon pay dates that can be no less often than semi-monthly and also gives the employees of a travelling sales crew the option of receiving their pay stubs statements electronically.

These bills also clarify that the department issued worker permit and identification card are in fact one document. The current rules have caused confusion among employers of travelling sales crews; recognizing that confusion, the department feels this is the time to clear up any misconceptions.

Again, the department would like to thank the committee for all of your work to date on DWD's rule change legislation. By clarifying relevant existing code and repealing irrelevant and outdated code, we are making it easier for people to work and do business in Wisconsin; we are moving Wisconsin forward.