

July 10, 2007

Senate Committee of Environment and Natural Resources
Chairman, Senator Mike Miller and Committee Members
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

RE: Senate Bill 119, Ballast Water Management on Great Lakes
Senate Bill 15, Appointment of Secretary

Dear Senator Miller and Committee Members:

The Manitowoc County Fish and Game Association is in full support of Senate Bill 119. Since the time the Great Lakes were opened to the Atlantic Ocean via the St. Lawrence Seaway, invasive species have entered the Great Lakes. The damage caused by this invasive marine life threatens indigenous species, and has caused billions of dollars of damage. This problem continues to grow each year as ships continue to dump contaminated ballast water into the Great Lakes, thereby continuing the introduction of ever more invasive species. Senate Bill 119 is crucial to the protection of the Great Lakes, and our organization asks for your full support in the introduction and successful passage of this vital piece of legislation.

The Manitowoc County Fish and Game Organization is also in full support of Senate Bill 15, relating to the appointment of the Department of Natural Resources Secretary by the Natural Resources Board. This legislation would help to ensure that the appointment would be based on the qualifications of the candidate and not the political pressures of an appointment by the Governor.

Sincerely,