Joe Leibham

State Senator
9th State Senate District

Senator Joe Leibham – Testimony Senate Bill 57

December 3, 2009

Good morning Chairman Kessler and Committee members and thank you for holding a hearing on Senate Bill (SB) 57. I am sorry I am not able to be with you personally today but I am involved in a number of earlier scheduled meetings in my Senate district.

SB 57 is a simple bill that makes a technical change to the make up of the Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Aerospace Authority (WAA).

The WAA was created by the legislature in 2006. Its purpose is to promote aerospace industry and education in Wisconsin, as well as work toward the creation of a spaceport in the Sheboygan area.

The WAA board of directors consists of six members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the State Senate; including the Director of the Wisconsin Space Grant Consortium.

SB 57 simply allows the Director of the Wisconsin Space Grant Consortium (WSGC) to appoint a designee to serve as a voting member of the WAA board of directors. This provision will allow the WSGC to have a formal role on the WAA board even if the Director is unable to participate.

The WAA has allowed a designee of the director of the WSGC to participate in the last few WAA board meeting discussions, but the designee has been unable to vote due to current statutory language. SB 57 would make the necessary technical change so the designee will be a voting member.

SB 57 was unanimously approved by the Senate Committee on Economic Development and the full Senate earlier this year.

Thank you again for holding a hearing on SB 57. Please contact me if I can personally answer any questions.

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