



Wisconsin Economic Development Association Inc.

TO: Members, Senate Committee on Environment & Natural Resources

FROM: Andy Lisak, President and Jim Hough & Amy Boyer, on behalf of Wisconsin Economic Development Association

DATE: May 23, 2007

RE: **Opposition to Senate Bill 119**

The Wisconsin Economic Development Association (WEDA), a statewide association of over 400 private and public economic development professionals, business leaders and volunteers in economic development, respectfully urges opposition to Senate Bill 119.

Although aquatic invasive species are a problem, SB 119 does not solve the problem. **SB119 will put Wisconsin industries and port communities at a competitive disadvantage and will not accomplish the intended prevention of the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species.**

The fiscal note prepared for the bill indicates that 75% of the ocean going vessels that would typically visit the Port of Superior would simply move across the harbor to the Port of Duluth if SB119 is passed.

WEDA supports action at the federal level that utilizes proven science. Federal action will prevent putting various states and their ports at a competitive disadvantage and is strongly supported over a patchwork of state laws that, while well intended, create winners and losers without solving the problem. WEDA members have actively lobbied members of the Wisconsin Congressional delegation to support federal legislation.

We thank you for your time and consideration and respectfully urge you opposition to SB 119.