



WISCONSIN TRIBAL JUDGE'S ASSOCIATION

April 29, 2009

Wisconsin Supreme Court
P.O. Box 1688
Madison, WI 53701-1688

Re: Proposed Amendment to Wis. Stat. §801.54

Dear Wisconsin Supreme Court Justices,

The Wisconsin Tribal Judges Association (WTJA) writes to you today in support of the proposed amendment to Wis. Stat. §801.54. We were encouraged when you adopted this Discretionary Transfer Rule in the summer of 2008. This rule is an expression of comity, cooperation and mutual respect. It was particularly encouraging that this Rule emerged from the State Tribal Judicial Forum and had broad support from both the state and tribal judges on the Forum.

At this time you are presented with a proposed amendment to the Rule. This amendment is offered as a practical consideration to help make the Rule work better, consistent with its purposes. We have studied the proposed amendment, including the additional sentence recommended for inclusion by the Wisconsin Dept. of Justice in their letter to Justice Roggensack dated April 6, 2009.

We support the proposed amendment and have no objection to the DOJ's additional sentence. We hope you will pass favorably on the amendment before you so that this Discretionary Transfer Rule can work the way it was intended to for the mutual benefit of courts and parties when it is appropriate.

Sincerely,

Hon. Leland Wigg-Ninham, President, Wisconsin Tribal Judges Association

President, Leland Wigg-Ninham

Vice President, Todd Matha-, Ho-Chunk

Secretary/Treasurer, Alice Soulier, Lac Du Flambeau

Director, Richard L. Ackley

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OF WISCONSIN