

In Wisconsin, 17 year olds are considered adults for purposes of the prosecution of crime. However, adolescent may differ from adults in terms of their ability to reason and anticipate consequences. Does this argue for keeping 17 year olds in the juvenile justice system? Should the dividing line be solely based on age, or should it depend on person-specific measures of maturity? Client: Chair, Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice

The United Nations program, Safe Access to Firewood and Alternative Energy in Humanitarian Settings (SAFE), will provide energy efficient stoves refugees and internally displaced persons in 36 countries. Although the program is primarily aimed at reducing the risk to women and girls who must collect firewood, the more efficient stoves also have potential value in curbing global climate change. Should a followup program aimed at increasing the use of more efficient stoves by resident populations be implemented? Client: Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations

Should Wisconsin change its laws concerning the marketing of raw milk? Chair, Assembly Committee on Agriculture

At many Madison intersections, pedestrians must press a button to activate a walk sign. Pedestrians arriving even immediately after the stoplight has changed cannot activate the walk sign. In addition, pedestrians must often step into mud or snow to reach the button and touching the button may expose the pedestrian to infection. Should Madison automate all walk signs? Client: Madison Common Council

Minors who participate in sexting, the electronic sharing of nude photographs of themselves, violate Wisconsin laws against child pornography. Should these laws be changed to distinguish between sexting and other types of child pornography? Chair, Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice

Asian carp have spread into Midwestern rivers and now pose a threat to the Great Lakes, especially through the Chicago Canal, which links the Mississippi River basin to Lake Michigan. What steps should be taken to lessen the threat? Chair, Great Lakes Commission

The 1984 National Organ Transplant Act prohibited commerce in organs by making it unlawful for any person knowingly to “acquire, receive, or otherwise transfer any human organ for valuable consideration for use in human transplantation if the transfer affects interstate commerce” (Title III, Sec. 101a). In recent years, the organ transplant system has accepted altruistic kidney donations—undirected live donations. Should the 1984 act be amended to relax the ban on commerce in live-donor kidneys? Client: Chair, U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions

Should Wisconsin create a system for the legal use of marijuana for medical purposes? Client: Chair, Assembly Committee Health and Healthcare Reform

Should Wisconsin replace the direct election of Supreme Court justices with an appointment process? Client: Chair, Assembly Committee on Judiciary and Ethics

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has been criticized for its management of the state deer herd. Should the department change the processes through which it establishes goals and designs policies to pursue them? Client: Secretary, Department of Natural Resources

Considerable benefits accrue from breast feeding infants. However, less than half of Wisconsin babies are being breast fed at six months. Recently changes in law have established a right for breast feeding in public. Should Wisconsin take additional steps to encourage breast feeding? Client: Chair, Assembly Health and Healthcare Reform Committee

Nanotechnology is being increasingly used in the design of drug delivery systems. Does the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) have adequate resources for assessing the safety of these products within the existing regulatory framework? Client: Director, National Nanotechnology Coordination Office

Several school districts in Wisconsin sponsor virtual schools. Are virtual schools being appropriately regulated? In particular, do they offer potential savings for Wisconsin primary and secondary education? Client: Chair, Senate Education Committee

Should Wisconsin require school districts to adopt policies to reduce the prevalence of childhood obesity? Chair, Senate Education Committee

On December 8, 2009, the Office of Management and Budget issued an Open Government Directive that, among other things, required federal agencies to post at least three high-value data on the web and register them with Data.gov. What executive branch policies should be established to expand public access and use of agency data beyond this initial requirement? Client: Director, Office of Management and Budget

Should the issuing of entry visas into the United States be shifted from the Department of State to the Department of Homeland Security? Client: Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Counterterrorism

The Office of Human Subjects Research in the Department of Health and Human Services has responsibility for implementing federal regulations governing research involving people. The office has been criticized in the past for requiring universities and other research organizations to impose overly stringent requirements on low-risk research. Should regulations be issued to redirect the mission of the Office of Human Subjects Research toward higher risk clinical research and away from lower risk social science research? Client: Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services

In 2002 the U.S. "T" visa program for victims of human trafficking established a procedure for attaining permanent residency status for certain trafficking victims who cooperate with law enforcement agencies to prosecute those responsible for their enslavement. Should the "T" visa program be modified to make it more effective? Client: Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice Office of Legal Policy

Should federal civil forfeiture laws be amended to provide greater protection for the property of those not involved in criminal activity and those charged but not convicted of crimes? Client: Chair, U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee

Should policies be adopted to discourage Wisconsin school districts from employing zero-tolerance policies? Chair, Senate Education Committee

Most vaccines manufactured in the United States use chicken eggs as a growing medium. Consequently, the manufacturing process is always slow and costly, and it is difficult when viruses adversely infect chickens as well as humans. Newer technologies, including reverse genetics and mammalian cell culturing, offer the prospect for faster and less costly vaccine production. Should federal policy be changed to speed the introduction of new vaccine technologies? Client: Chair, Subcommittee on Health, U.S. House Committee on Energy and Commerce

On September 5, 2007 the Department of Health and Human Services published in the *Federal Register* Phase III of its implementation of the physician self-referral prohibition in Section 1877 of the Social Security Act. Do these regulations adequately and appropriately curb physician incentives for overuse of services for Medicare patients? Client: Chair, U.S. Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee

In an Issue Brief published by Resources for the Future, Howard Kunreuther and Erwann Michel-Kerjan suggest that the National Flood Insurance Program introduce long-term policies for property that will come under increasing risk if global climate change results in rises in sea level. Consider their proposal as well as other possible reforms to the flood insurance program to create stronger incentives for adaptation by property owners. Client: Chair, Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming, U.S. House of Representatives

Should the federal government create a domestic “peace core” to promote arts and music in public schools? Client: Ex Officio Congressional Representatives, National Council on the Arts