

**BARRON COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. 2026 - 16**

**Resolution Supporting Assembly Bill 1033 - Regulation of Wakesurfing**

**TO THE BARRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

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2       **WHEREAS**, the Barron County Extension/Land Conservation Committee met on  
3 Tuesday April 7, 2026; and  
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5       **WHEREAS**, Pat Brown, Barron County Lakeshore Technician, provided  
6 information to the Committee regarding this Bill and spoke in favor of a resolution in  
7 support of AB1033; and  
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9       **WHEREAS**, County Administrator French spoke with Wisconsin Counties  
10 Association Staff on March 12, 2026 and WCA Staff indicated their support for AB1033;  
11 and  
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13       **WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin Counties Association's Annual Meeting is September  
14 20-22, 2026 at the Kalahari Resorts and Convention Center in Wisconsin Dells; and  
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16       **WHEREAS**, 2025 Assembly Bill 1033, February 9, 2026 – Introduced by  
17 Representative Brooks, co-sponsored by Senator Feyen was referred to Committee on State  
18 Affairs; and  
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20       **WHEREAS**, this legislation is an act to regulate wakesurfing. The bill defines  
21 “wakesurfing” as surfing a motorboat’s wake, regardless of whether the person is being  
22 pulled by a tow rope attached to the motorboat that is producing the wake, or operating a  
23 motorboat in a manner that creates a wake that is, or is intended to be, surfed by another  
24 person”; and  
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26       **WHEREAS**, AB1033 is a legislative mechanism to begin controlling wakesurfing  
27 so as to preserve Wisconsin’s inland lakes and to reduce shoreline erosion as well as  
28 providing for boater safety measures; and  
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30       **WHEREAS**, the text of AB1033 is attached to this Resolution for reference; and  
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32       **WHEREAS**, Supervisor Kusilek, made the motion “to approve support of county  
33 resolution for AB-1033”, seconded by Supervisor Gores to recommend the drafting of this  
34 Resolution with LCC/Extension members Kusilek, Gores, Cook, Langman, Huth, voting  
35 in favor and no members voting against.  
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37       **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that with passage of this Resolution  
38 the Barron County Board of Supervisors would support the passage of 2025 Assembly Bill  
39 1033; and  
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41       **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Barron County Board of Supervisors further  
42 supports:

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43           A:     This Resolution to be forwarded to the Wisconsin Counties Association for  
44 inclusion with the Resolutions Packet for the 2026 WCA Annual Convention.

45           B:     The right for Towns, Cities and Villages to enact and enforce a local  
46 ordinance more restrictive than AB 1033.

47           C:     That enforcement efforts correlating to the spirit and intent of AB1033 be  
48 undertaken by the Wisconsin DNR and local Sheriff's Departments.

49           D:     Three Hundred (300) foot shoreline setback.  
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51           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution be distributed to our Local  
52 State Assembly persons, State Senator and Governor Tony Evers; and  
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54           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that publication of this resolution may occur  
55 through posting in accordance with Section 985.02 of the Wisconsin Statutes.  
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**OFFERED THIS 18<sup>th</sup> day of May 2026.**

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| <p>Number of readings required: One (X) Two ( )</p> <p>Vote required for passage: Majority (X)<br/>2/3 Entire Board (20) ( )</p> <p>Source of funding: Budgeted ( ) General Fund ( )<br/>Grant ( ) Contingency ( )<br/>Other ( ) Details: Not Applicable</p> <p>Fiscal impact:<br/>- Current year total amount: \$ -0-<br/>- Future years total amount: \$ -0-<br/>- Effect on tax levy – current year - \$ -0-<br/>- Effect on tax levy – future years - \$ -0-</p> <p>Fiscal impact reviewed by County Finance Department</p> <p>_____<br/>Michelle Drury, Finance Director/County Auditor</p> <p>Approved as to form by:</p> <p>_____<br/>Jeffrey French, Administrator</p> <p>_____<br/>John Muench, Corporation Counsel</p> | <p>_____<br/>Randall Cook Sr. LCC/Extension Chair</p> <p>(The Committee Chair signature verifies the action taken by the Committee.)</p> <p>Board Action: Adopted (X) Failed ( ) Tabled ( )</p> <p><b>Motion: (Langman/Bachowski)</b> to approve. Chair Okey gave the background of this Assembly Bill and the process to submit the resolutions to the WCA Board in hopes of creating legislative support in 2027. Assemblyman Armstrong reviewed the bill process and noted the DNR doesn't want a depth description in the resolution itself and will not enforce the bill. This bill remains silent on local control. Discussion. Carried with 26 Yes and 1 No (Vaughn) and 2 Absent (Gores &amp; McCready).</p> |
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