



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Wisconsin is not a Boundless Warehouse – Amend SB 1 (related to Foxconn)
A Moral Problem**

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is to provide for and foster public policy advocacy for the earth, as explained in our social statement, *Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope, Justice*

In our world, country and state we experience urgency for our environment. When we ignore that urgency and our responsibility to care for our earth we have a moral problem. We believe that “in our efforts to make a name for ourselves we have become captive to exploitative powers and treat the earth as a boundless warehouse. The idea of the earth as a boundless warehouse has proven both false and dangerous. Damage to the environment eventually will affect most people through increased conflict over scarce resources, decline in food security, and greater vulnerability to disease.” *Called into the World*, Lutheran Office for Public Policy’s devotional on the ELCA social statements.

By easing environmental regulations for Foxconn or *an electronics and information technology manufacturing zone*, we are concerned that we are moving in the direction of treating Wisconsin as a boundless warehouse with endless supplies of water. We cannot take the attitude that Wisconsin is so water-rich that we can continue extracting water and polluting it without dire consequences.

We should maintain environmental regulations on a company that has the potential to extract vast amounts Of Wisconsin water and release pollutants into the water. Instead, parts of Senate Bill 1 create environmental exceptions. DNR regulations should be maintained.

We are pleased that our governor and legislators are so passionate about jobs. We are disappointed that concerns we and other groups expressed about environmental protections in Assembly Bill 1 are not reflected in any amendments to Senate Bill 1. We would like Wisconsin’s land and waters to become integral parts of discussions related to Foxconn. We hope that the senate will amend SB 1 to not allow for exceptions to current regulations, or that the senate will vote against the bill.

“The world and all that is in it belongs to the Lord; the earth and all who live on it are God’s.” (Psalm 24:1)