



1997 ASSEMBLY BILL 425

June 12, 1997 - Introduced by Representatives OWENS, KAUFERT, OLSEN and SERATTI, cosponsored by Senators ELLIS, A. LASEE and ROESSLER. Referred to Joint committee on Finance.

- 1 **AN ACT relating to:** the expenditure of \$2,087 from the general fund for payment
2 of a claim against the state made by Winnebago County.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill directs expenditure of \$2,087 from the general fund in payment of a claim made by Winnebago County against the state. Under s. 5.72 (1), stats., county and municipal clerks and boards of election commissioners preparing ballots are directed to submit copies of the ballots, or proof copies, to the state elections board for review of possible errors. The board is directed to notify the clerk or board of election commissioners of any errors that it discovers within 7 days after submittal. At the 1988 general election, the Winnebago County clerk either did not submit ballots or proof copies or did not request review of its ballots or proofs. On October 12, 1988, the state elections board issued an order finding that the county's ballots for the 1988 general election did not comply with s. 5.64 (3), stats., which requires a separate presidential ballot, or with s. 5.64 (1) (a) and (3) (a), stats., which requires specific voting instructions in plain, legible type, and requires ballot titles to appear in lettering at least three-eighths inch high. The elections board ordered the county to reprint its ballots for the city of Neenah. The county incurred costs of \$2,087 for ballots that were destroyed as a result of the order of the elections board and claimed this amount. On February 5, 1990, when the claims board recommended approval of a similar claim by Milwaukee County, the board recommended payment of claims from other similarly affected counties, upon submission of appropriate documentation from those counties. See 1989 *Senate Journal*, pp. 683-684.

