

WISCONSIN STATE
LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE HEARING
RECORDS

1999-00

(session year)

Assembly

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on
Campaigns &
Elections
(AC-CE)

File Naming Example:

Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

- > 05hr_AC-Ed_RCP_pt01a
- > 05hr_AC-Ed_RCP_pt01b
- > 05hr_AC-Ed_RCP_pt02

Published Documents

> Committee Hearings ... CH (Public Hearing Announcements)

> **

> Committee Reports ... CR

> **

> Executive Sessions ... ES

> **

> Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

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*Information Collected For Or
Against Proposal*

> Appointments ... Appt

> **

> Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule

**

> Hearing Records ... HR (bills and resolutions)

> **99hr_ab0443_AC-CE_pt01**

> Miscellaneous ... Misc

> **

Richard, Rob

From: Lee Barden [ljbarden@centurytel.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2000 2:37 PM
To: Rep.Freese@legis.state.wi.us
Subject: Assembly Bill 443

Dear Rep. Freese:

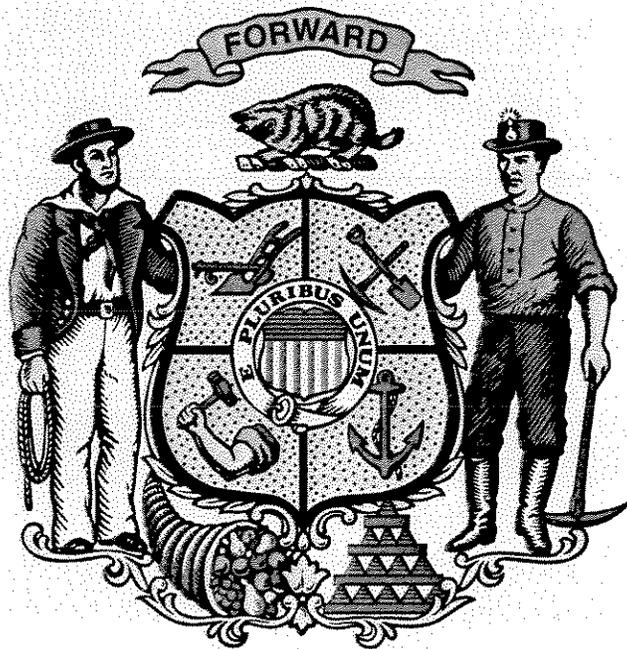
I address this to you, the Chairperson of the Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections.

I would express my apposition to AB443 as pertaining to all polling places being required to open at 7:00 a.m. This would make a hardship for towns with a small population.

Thank you,

Lee Barden
Town Clerk
Town of Scott, Columbia County

STEVE/TERRI,
(COLUMBIA COUNTY)
5 CALLS FROM MARCELLAN
TOWNSHIP OPPOSING AB 443
THEY ARE "TO SMALL" TO BE OPENING
THE POLLS AT 7:00 AM
S.S.



Richard, Rob

From: Marcia Dykstra [Friesland@centuryinter.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2000 4:17 PM
To: Rep.freese@legis.state.wi.us; Rep.suder@legis.state.wi.us;
Rep.walker@legis.state.wis.us; Rep.montgomery@legis.state.wi.us;
Rep.ladwig@legis.state.wi.us; Rep.travis@legis.state.wi.us;
Rep.cullen@legis.state.wi.us; Rep.miller@legis.state.wi.us;
Rep.sherman@legis.state.wi.us
Subject: AB443 - Polling Place Hours

Dear Representatives,

I am writing you regarding the possible change in the law regarding Polling Place Hours.

We are a small community in Columbia with approximately 330 residents. We currently have voter turnouts ranging from 35 voters to 175 voters depending on the election. We currently staff our elections with three people and use Columbia County's central count system to tally the votes.

The proposed bill would require that we change our hours from the current times of 9:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Our village would no longer be able to make the decision regarding the hours of our own polling place. There is no need in our community to extend these hours to include the early morning hours. Voters can stop in after work in the evening hours without being concerned about long waiting lines here in Friesland. With three persons staffing the election, they would then be required to sit in the Village Hall for 13 hours with very very few voters coming into the polling place.

We presently pay our election workers a flat rate per day. We could not expect the workers to work an additional 2 hours for the same rate. The Village of Friesland will need to use additional people and pay more to accomodate this change.

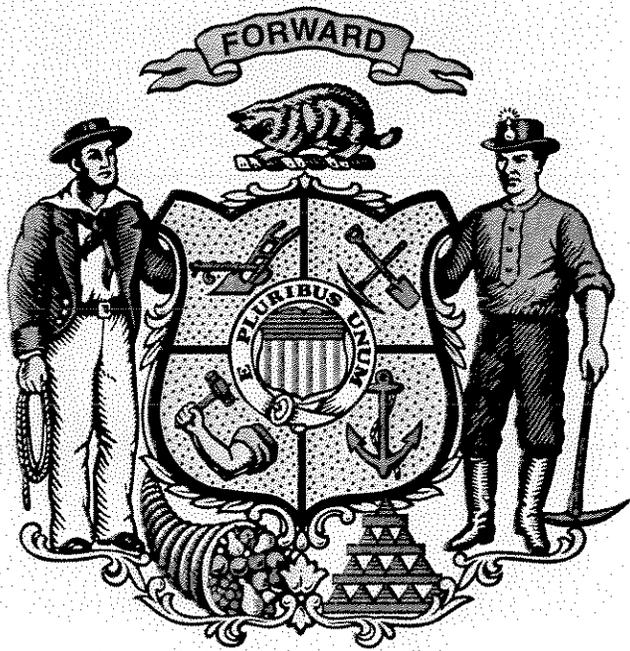
I'm sure this is the case for most small villages and townships. The new requirement will create additional expenses for the communities. I feel we can make the decision for ourselves and do not need a change in the law.

Thank you for your attention.

Marcia J. Dykstra, CMC
Village Clerk-treasurer
Friesland@centuryinter.net

Phone: 920-348-5156
Email:

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To: Members of Assembly Campaigns Committee
From: Rick Stadelman, Executive Director
Re: AB 443 Changes in Polling Hours Required
Date: February 17, 2000

I was unable to personally attend the Committee hearing on Wednesday, February 16, 2000 in regard to AB 443, but I want to convey to you why our Association registered in opposition to AB 443. This bill would require that for every election the polling hours must start at 7:00 a.m. Current law allows villages, towns and cities of the fourth class cities the local option to open at 7:00 a.m. or later, but no later than 9:00 a.m. We believe that for many small towns and villages this local option should be retained.

For example in the recent spring primary, which for many towns only included a primary vote for county supervisors if more than two candidates ran for an office, and for which may have only been a part of the town, as few as 20 to 30 votes were cast all day. To require the polling place in these rural communities to be open on all elections such as primary elections, with the minimum number of poll workers of three for two additional hours, there will be a cost of \$40 to \$75 more for each election, with the potential for very few additional votes.

We would urge some recognition that small communities should have the authority to make decisions on starting times for polling places, particularly for special elections and primary elections.

Thank you for your consideration.

Against
Suder
Sherman