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**WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
ACT MEMO**

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**2005 Wisconsin Act 100**  
[2005 Senate Bill 4]

**Decreasing the Number of County  
Board Supervisors**

2005 Wisconsin Act 100 allows, in counties other than Milwaukee and Menominee Counties, the county board, or the electors of the county by petition and referendum, to decrease the number of county board supervisors one time only between board enactments of decennial supervisory district plans.

**Prior Law**

Prior law generally required a county board to redistrict its supervisory districts once every 10 years following the decennial federal census by enacting a decennial supervisory district plan, after which the number of supervisory districts (each represented by a supervisor) could not be changed until the board enacted the next decennial supervisory district plan. An exception was made for a county with a population of 500,000 or more (Milwaukee County), in which the board may decrease the number of supervisors after it enacts a decennial supervisory district plan once only prior to November 15, 2010.

**2005 Wisconsin Act 100**

Act 100 sets forth criteria and procedures under which, in counties other than Milwaukee and Menominee Counties, either a county board or the electors of the county by petition and referendum may decrease the number of county supervisors after the county board enacts its decennial supervisory district plan. If this option is used by either the board or by petition, Act 100 prohibits another such action to decrease the number of county supervisors in that county until after the county board enacts the next decennial supervisory district plan. In addition, Act 100 sets forth procedures under which, if the decrease affects a city entirely within a county that has aldermanic districts coterminous with the supervisory districts, the common council of the city may decrease the number of aldermanic districts and corresponding members of the council to keep the boundaries coterminous.

**Effective Date:** The Act takes effect on January 20, 2006.

**Prepared by:** Mary Offerdahl, Staff Attorney

January 12, 2006

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information,  
consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/>.

