© 07hr_CRule_07-043_SC-LEUA_pt01

Details:

(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ... PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS

2007-08

(session year)

Senate

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on ... Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs (SC-LEUA)

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

Committee Reports ... CR

Executive Sessions ... ES

Public Hearings ... PH

INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

Appointments ... Appt (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)

Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)

Hearing Records ... bills and resolutions (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)

(ab = Assembly Bill)

(ar = Assembly Resolution)

(ajr = Assembly Joint Resolution)

(sb = Senate Bill)

(sr = Senate Resolution)

(sir = Senate Joint Resolution)

Miscellaneous ... Misc

Senate

Record of Committee Proceedings

Committee on Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs

Clearinghouse Rule 07-043

Relating to charges for voter registration data. Submitted by Elections Board.

June 06, 2007

Referred to Committee on Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs.

July 24, 2007

PUBLIC HEARING HELD

(2)

Present:

(3) Senators Coggs, Wirch and Grothman.

Absent:

Senators Lehman and A. Lasee.

Appearances For

• None.

Appearances Against

• Joel Gratz, Madison

Appearances for Information Only

• Kevin Kennedy — Executive Director, Wisconsin State Elections Board

Registrations For

None.

Registrations Against

• Barry Ashenfelter, Watertown — Wisconsin Voter Lists

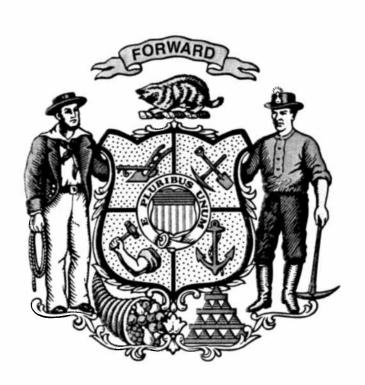
Registrations for Information Only

• None.

August 7, 2007

No action taken.

Adam Plotkin Committee Clerk



Plotkin, Adam

From:

Wisconsin Voter Lists - Barry [voterlists@charter.net]

Sent:

Tuesday, July 24, 2007 7:18 AM

To:

Sen.Coggs

Cc:

Sen.Wirch; Sen.Lehman; Sen.Grothman; Sen.Lasee; 'Kennedy, Kevin'

Subject:

Today's Labor & Elections Committee Meeting - pricing of voter data by Elections Board (CR

07-043)

Attachments: voter data pricing testimony cr 07-043.doc

July 24, 2007

Dear Chairman Coggs & Committee Members -

I am writing to express my concern about an Elections Board rule you are reviewing today (CR 07-043), relating to voter data pricing.

I believe the rule should include a subscription-type element to reduce the cost of second and third purchases of the statewide SVRS voter file in calendar year or other period of time.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Barry Ashenfelter

Wisconsin Voter Lists Post Office Box 636 Watertown, WI 53094

(920) 988-7216 www.wisconsinvoters.com

Wisconsin Voter Lists

Post Office Box 636 Watertown, WI 53094 920-988-7216

July 24, 2007

The Honorable Spencer Coggs, Chair Senate Committee on Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs Room 123 South, State Capitol Madison, WI 53707-7882

Re: CR 07-043 (SEB voter data pricing rule)

Dear Senator Coggs:

I am registering in opposition today to Clearinghouse Rule 07-043, relating to charges for voter registration data, because the rule does not contain a provision for subscription-type pricing (i.e. a lower price for second and third purchases of the statewide SVRS voter file in a calendar year or other set period of time). I have no objections to any other part of the proposed rule.

Last August, when State Elections Board members passed a motion authorizing creation of this rule, the staff informed the Board through a written memo from Kevin Kennedy that "a subscription element needs to be added so that users are not paying for a full statewide record every time the user wants an update to an existing statewide file. The update would be limited to 10% of the original cost or the per-record charge if less." The "subscription element" was, however, not included in Emergency Rule ElBd 3.50 that implemented this Board directive on April 30, 2007, nor is it included in CR 07-043.

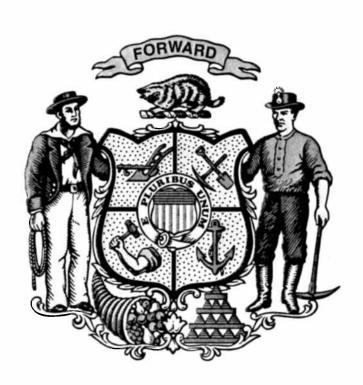
Our company has already made two purchases this year of the statewide SVRS data file from the SEB, at a cost of \$12,500 each. A subscription-type fee for multiple purchases of essentially the same data would be more reasonable.

Thank you for your attention to my comments.

Sincerely,

Barry Ashenfelter Company Representative

> Owned & Operated By Practical Political Consulting East Lansing, MI 48823 www.wisconsinvoters.com



Wisconsin Voter Lists

Post Office Box 636 Watertown, WI 53094 920-988-7216

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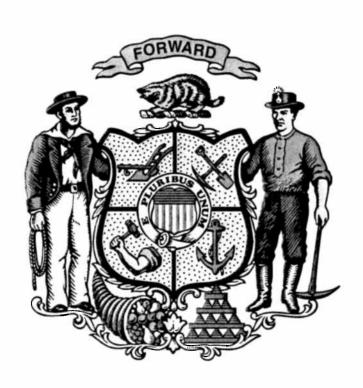
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Sarry Asherfelter
Barry Ashenfelter

Company Representative

Owned & Operated By Practical Political Consulting East Lansing, MI 48823 www.wisconsinvoters.com



CR 07-043 Cost of Voter Registration Data under SVRS

Current rule

• Can only charge "actual, necessary, and direct cost of reproduction and transcription of the record." (s. 19.35(3))

Reason for change

• 2007 Wisconsin Act 1 (which created the GAB) also created statute 6.36(6) which directs the Elections Board to set a fee for obtaining voter registration data at an amount estimated to cover the cost of reproduction and the cost of maintaining the Statewide Voter Registration System list at the state and local level.

Proposed new rule

- The cost for a list under the new rule would be \$25 base fee plus \$5 for the first 100 records and \$5 per thousand additional records.
- The maximum charge for an electronic list is \$12,5000
 - The average Assembly district of 50,000 would cost \$275.
 - o The average Senate district of 150,000 would cost \$775.
 - Would have to request approximately 2.5 million records (about half the state's population) to hit the \$12,500 cap.
- Paper copies of the list would add a cost of \$0.25 per page plus shipping.
- Written requests for more information than voter name, candidate, election official, or address will be billed on a case by case basis.
- Requests can be made to the municipal clerk, the county clerk, or the Elections Board/Government Accountability Board
 - o Whoever receives and fulfills the request keeps the fee

Possible questions

- Estimate, based on current requests, how much revenue this will generate.
- Could an individual see their own SVRS record without having to pay the \$30 it would cost?
- Is there a way to opt out of having your name released as you can with the DOT for the driver's license list or DNR with the hunting license lists?

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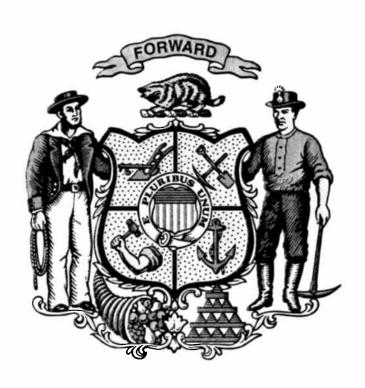
Jel-Hatz-Reasonable costs

of for free

- Mars- can have whole list for free.

Minn \$46 Cost

Lell - 2K







LCRC FORM 2

WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL RULES CLEARINGHOUSE

Ronald Sklansky Clearinghouse Director

Terry C. Anderson Legislative Council Director

Richard Sweet Clearinghouse Assistant Director

Laura D. Rose
Legislative Council Deputy Director

CLEARINGHOUSE REPORT TO AGENCY

[THIS REPORT HAS BEEN PREPARED PURSUANT TO S. 227.15, STATS. THIS IS A REPORT ON A RULE AS ORIGINALLY PROPOSED BY THE AGENCY; THE REPORT MAY NOT REFLECT THE FINAL CONTENT OF THE RULE IN FINAL DRAFT FORM AS IT WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE LEGISLATURE. THIS REPORT CONSTITUTES A REVIEW OF, BUT NOT APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF, THE SUBSTANTIVE CONTENT AND TECHNICAL ACCURACY OF THE RULE.]

CLEARINGHOUSE RULE 07-043

AN ORDER to create ElBd 3.50, relating to charges for voter registration data.

Submitted by **ELECTIONS BOARD**

05-08-2007 RECEIVED BY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

05-24-2007 REPORT SENT TO AGENCY.

RS:JK



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL RULES CLEARINGHOUSE

Ronald Sklansky Clearinghouse Director

Terry C. Anderson
Legislative Council Director

Richard Sweet Clearinghouse Assistant Director

Laura D. Rose
Legislative Council Deputy Director

CLEARINGHOUSE RULE 07-43

Comments

[NOTE: All citations to "Manual" in the comments below are to the Administrative Rules Procedures Manual, prepared by the Revisor of Statutes Bureau and the Legislative Council Staff, dated January 2005.]

2. Form, Style and Placement in Administrative Code

- a. The agency should follow the format for the introductory clause described in s. 1.02 (1), Manual.
- b. The effective date clause should be SECTION 2 and should immediately follow SECTION 1. [See s. 1.02 (4), Manual.]

5. Clarity, Grammar, Punctuation and Use of Plain Language

- a. Throughout the rule summary, "Board" and "Elections Board" are used interchangeably. Either "Board" or "Elections Board" should be used consistently.
- b. Throughout s. ElBd 3.50, a space should be added after the "s." or "ss." in statutory references.
- c. Throughout s. ElBd 3.50, "cost," "charge," and "fees" are used interchangeably. One of these words should be used consistently.
- d. In s. ElBd 3.50 (1) (intro.), "In this section" should replace "Definition: As used in this rule." [s. 1.01 (7) (a), Manual.]
 - e. In s. ElBd 3.50 (1) (d), the comma after "ss. 6.36 (1) (b) 1. a." should be deleted.
- f. In s. ElBd 3.50 (1) (f), "Registration Data" should not be capitalized. [s. 1.01 (4), Manual.]

NOTICE

This notice is to inform you that the proposed rulemaking of the State Elections Board, appearing in Clearinghouse Rule 07-043, creating ElBd.3.50, relating to the pricing of voter registration data obtained from the Statewide Voter Registration System, is submitted to the presiding officer of each house of the legislature. This submission includes the proposed rule, the Legislative Council's staff's report and the Elections Board's report. In addition, the Elections Board is placing in the Wisconsin Administrative Register a notice that the proposed rules have been submitted to the presiding officer of each house.

Dated June 5, 2007

STATE ELECTIONS BOARD

George *M.D*unst Legal Counsel

REPORT

OF

STATE ELECTIONS BOARD

Clearinghouse Rule 07-43
Rules Section ElBd. 3.50
Wisconsin Administrative Code

The State Elections Board proposes an order to create ElBd 3.50, relating to the pricing of voter registration data obtained from the Statewide Voter Registration System.

ANALYSIS PREPARED BY STATE ELECTIONS BOARD:

- 1. Statute(s) interpreted: ss.5.02(14) and (17), 6.27, 6.275, 6.29, 6.33, 6.34, 6.35, 6.36, 6.40, 6.45, 6.46, 6.48, 6.50, 6.54, 6.55, 6.56, and 6.57, Stats.
- 2. Statutory authority: ss.5.05(1)(f), 6.36(6), and 227.11(2)(a), Stats.
- 3. Explanation of agency authority: This amended rule interprets ss.5.02(14) and (17), 6.27, 6.275, 6.29, 6.33, 6.34, 6.35, 6.36, 6.40, 6.45, 6.46, 6.48, 6.50, 6.54, 6.55, 6.56, and 6.57, Stats. The rule requires that persons who request copies of information or data from the Statewide Voter registration System must pay, for each such copy, a charge calculated under the provisions of the rule according to the schedule established by the rule.

At the present time, the Elections Board is limited, in the fee that it can charge for information provided by the Statewide Voter Registration System, to the fee set by s.19.35(3), Stats.: "the actual, necessary and direct cost of reproduction and transcription of the record." The legislature in s.6.36 (6), Stats., has directed the Board to promulgate a rule that sets the amount of the fee at an amount estimated to cover both the cost of reproduction and the cost of maintaining the list at the state and local level. In order to recover both the cost of reproduction and the cost of maintaining the list at the state and local level, rather than having its charge limited to the amount currently provided under the public records law, the Board is promulgating ElBd 3.50.

4. Related statute(s) or rule(s): s.19.35, Stats.

- Page 2
 - 5. Plain language analysis: The rule provides the methods by which the Elections Board staff will calculate the pricing to fulfill requests for voter registration data that are contained within the Statewide Voter Registration System.
 - 6. Summary of, and comparison with, existing or proposed federal regulations: The federal government does not have a voter registration system and does not provide voter registration data for which it could exact a charge.
 - 7. Comparison with rules in adjacent states: Illinois, Iowa, Michigan and Minnesota all have voter registration data systems which collect a charge for data relatively comparable to Wisconsin's.
 - 8. Summary of factual data and analytical methodologies: The legislature has directed the board to calculate a cost of data and record reproduction and a cost of list maintenance and build those costs into its charges for copies of voter registration data and records. Those are the only data or methodology that affects the rule.
 - 9. Analysis and supporting documents used to determine effect on small business or in preparation of economic impact report: The rule will have no effect on small business or economic impact.
 - 10. List of persons appearing at the public hearing:

No public hearing was held. The rule was submitted pursuant to the 30-day notice procedure of s.227.16(2)(e), Stats. No person who will be affected by the rule filed a petition for a public hearing within the 30-day period provided by that statute.

11. Explanations of modifications to the proposed rule:

The State Elections Board makes no substantive modifications to this rule.

12. Response to Legislative Council staff report:

The State Elections Board adopts the Legislative Council's staff's comments and has incorporated the suggested changes in the rule, except that ElBd 3.50(4) has been re-written to accommodate Legislative Council's concerns and, in ElBd 3.50(1)(g), the phrase "but not limited to" has been left in the rule on the

advice of the Wisconsin Department of Justice to ensure that "core data element" could include elements other than "voter name, candidate, election official, or address."

13. Conclusion and recommended action:

The State Elections Board unanimously concludes that El.Bd 3.50 should be created. The creation of this rule is necessary to cover both the cost of reproduction and the cost of maintaining the list at the state and local level, as required by s.6.36 (6), Stats.

The Board recommends promulgation of this rule.

Respectfully submitted,

June 5, 2007

STATE ELECTIONS BOARD

WISCONSIN ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

STATE ELECTIONS BOARD

SECTION 1. ElBd 3.50 is created to read:

3.50 Charges for voter registration data.

- (1) In this section:
 - (a) "Custom report" means a report that is not programmed to run in the Statewide Voter Registration System at the time a request for the report is made, or a report that requires additional programming tasks.
 - (b) "Election official" has the same meaning as provided in s. 5.02 (4e), Stats.
 - (c) "Official registration list" has the same meaning as provided in s. 6.36, Stats.
 - (d) "Protected information" means any information that is protected from general public disclosure by ss. 6.36 (1) (b) 1.a. and 6.47, Stats.
 - (e) "Report" means a defined list of related voter registration data records generated from the Statewide Voter Registration System.
 - (f) "Voter registration data" means data contained in the official registration list.
 - (g) "Voter registration data record" means a set of related information requested from the official registration list which consists of a core data element and related attributes. A core data element is the basic unit of data that is being requested, including, but not limited to, a voter name, candidate, election official, or address. The related attributes consist of pieces of data associated with that core data element.
- (2) The official registration list shall be open to public inspection consistent with the requirements of ss. 6.36, 6.45 to 6.47, and ss. 19.31 to 19.36, Stats.
- (3) Any person may obtain, from the official registration list, voter registration data that is not protected information, upon payment of the applicable charges.
- (4) The charge for reports in electronic format is a \$25 base fee per report; plus \$5 for the first 1,000 voter registration data records, or up to 1,000 voter registration data records; plus \$5 for each additional 1,000 voter registration data records, rounded to the nearest thousand. The maximum charge for an electronic report is \$12,500.

- (5) The charge for a paper copy of a report is \$.25 per page, plus the cost of postage and shipping.
- (6) Any request for a report or custom report submitted to the elections board shall be made in writing by the requester or reduced to writing by the elections board's staff. Any request by the elections board for payment in advance for the report requested shall include a copy of the report request in writing as submitted by the requester or as memorialized by the elections board's staff.
- (7) Any person may request a copy of the poll list used at an election from the municipal or county clerk who has custody of the list. The charge for a copy of a poll list provided by a municipal or county clerk shall be a charge determined by that clerk not to exceed the cost of reproduction.
- (8) The elections board, its staff, and each municipal or county election official shall take steps to ensure that any protected information contained in the Statewide Voter Registration System, or on a poll list, is not made available for public inspection.
- (9) If a request for voter registration data requires a custom report, and the elections board staff determines that it can produce the report, the charge for producing the custom report charged to the requester shall be calculated by the elections board's staff on a case-by-case basis and shall include, in addition to the charges articulated in subs. (4) and (5), any applicable charges for handling and mailing; charges for reproduction, including programming costs; and costs of maintenance of the Statewide Voter Registration System as authorized by s. 6.36(6), Stats. Requests fulfilled under this subsection are not subject to the maximum charge limitations in subs. (4) and (5).
- (10) The money received from requests for voter registration data shall remain with the municipality, county, or elections board, whichever produces and provides the report.

INITIAL REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS:

The creation of this rule does not affect business.

FISCAL ESTIMATE:

The creation of this rule has no fiscal effect.

CONTACT PERSON:

George A. Dunst Legal Counsel, State Elections Board 17 W. Main Street, P.O. Box 2973 Madison, Wisconsin 53701-2973; Phone 266-0136

The creation of this rule will take effect on the first day of the month following its publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register pursuant to s.227.22(2), Stats.

Dated June 5, 2007,

KEVIN J. KENNEDY

Executive Director

NOTICE

This notice is to inform you that the proposed rulemaking of the State Elections Board, appearing in Clearinghouse Rule 07-043, creating ElBd.3.50, relating to the pricing of voter registration data obtained from the Statewide Voter Registration System, is submitted to the presiding officer of each house of the legislature. This submission includes the proposed rule, the Legislative Council's staff's report and the Elections Board's report. In addition, the Elections Board is placing in the Wisconsin Administrative Register a notice that the proposed rules have been submitted to the presiding officer of each house.

Dated June 5, 2007

STATE ELECTIONS BOARD

George A. Dunst Legal Counsel

REPORT

OF

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Rules Section ElBd. 3.50
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- 1. Statute(s) interpreted: ss.5.02(14) and (17), 6.27, 6.275, 6.29, 6.33, 6.34, 6.35, 6.36, 6.40, 6.45, 6.46, 6.48, 6.50, 6.54, 6.55, 6.56, and 6.57, Stats.
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4. Related statute(s) or rule(s): s.19.35, Stats.

- 5. Plain language analysis: The rule provides the methods by which the Elections Board staff will calculate the pricing to fulfill requests for voter registration data that are contained within the Statewide Voter Registration System.
- 6. Summary of, and comparison with, existing or proposed federal regulations: The federal government does not have a voter registration system and does not provide voter registration data for which it could exact a charge.
- 7. Comparison with rules in adjacent states: Illinois, Iowa, Michigan and Minnesota all have voter registration data systems which collect a charge for data relatively comparable to Wisconsin's.
- 8. Summary of factual data and analytical methodologies: The legislature has directed the board to calculate a cost of data and record reproduction and a cost of list maintenance and build those costs into its charges for copies of voter registration data and records. Those are the only data or methodology that affects the rule.
- 9. Analysis and supporting documents used to determine effect on small business or in preparation of economic impact report: The rule will have no effect on small business or economic impact.
- 10. List of persons appearing at the public hearing:

No public hearing was held. The rule was submitted pursuant to the 30-day notice procedure of s.227.16(2)(e), Stats. No person who will be affected by the rule filed a petition for a public hearing within the 30-day period provided by that statute.

11. Explanations of modifications to the proposed rule:

The State Elections Board makes no substantive modifications to this rule.

12. Response to Legislative Council staff report:

The State Elections Board adopts the Legislative Council's staff's comments and has incorporated the suggested changes in the rule, except that ElBd 3.50(4) has been re-written to accommodate Legislative Council's concerns and, in ElBd 3.50(1)(g), the phrase "but not limited to" has been left in the rule on the

advice of the Wisconsin Department of Justice to ensure that "core data element" could include elements other than "voter name, candidate, election official, or address."

13. Conclusion and recommended action:

The State Elections Board unanimously concludes that El.Bd 3.50 should be created. The creation of this rule is necessary to cover both the cost of reproduction and the cost of maintaining the list at the state and local level, as required by s.6.36 (6), Stats.

The Board recommends promulgation of this rule.

Respectfully submitted,

June 5, 2007

STATE ELECTIONS BOARD

George A. Dunst, Legal Counsel

WISCONSIN ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

STATE ELECTIONS BOARD

SECTION 1. ElBd 3.50 is created to read:

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 - (g) "Voter registration data record" means a set of related information requested from the official registration list which consists of a core data element and related attributes. A core data element is the basic unit of data that is being requested, including, but not limited to, a voter name, candidate, election official, or address. The related attributes consist of pieces of data associated with that core data element.
- (2) The official registration list shall be open to public inspection consistent with the requirements of ss. 6.36, 6.45 to 6.47, and ss. 19.31 to 19.36, Stats.
- (3) Any person may obtain, from the official registration list, voter registration data that is not protected information, upon payment of the applicable charges.
- (4) The charge for reports in electronic format is a \$25 base fee per report; plus \$5 for the first 1,000 voter registration data records, or up to 1,000 voter registration data records; plus \$5 for each additional 1,000 voter registration data records, rounded to the nearest thousand. The maximum charge for an electronic report is \$12,500.

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- (8) The elections board, its staff, and each municipal or county election official shall take steps to ensure that any protected information contained in the Statewide Voter Registration System, or on a poll list, is not made available for public inspection.
- (9) If a request for voter registration data requires a custom report, and the elections board staff determines that it can produce the report, the charge for producing the custom report charged to the requester shall be calculated by the elections board's staff on a case-by-case basis and shall include, in addition to the charges articulated in subs. (4) and (5), any applicable charges for handling and mailing; charges for reproduction, including programming costs; and costs of maintenance of the Statewide Voter Registration System as authorized by s. 6.36(6), Stats. Requests fulfilled under this subsection are not subject to the maximum charge limitations in subs. (4) and (5).
- (10) The money received from requests for voter registration data shall remain with the municipality, county, or elections board, whichever produces and provides the report.

INITIAL REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS:

The creation of this rule does not affect business.

FISCAL ESTIMATE:

The creation of this rule has no fiscal effect.

CONTACT PERSON:

George A. Dunst Legal Counsel, State Elections Board 17 W. Main Street, P.O. Box 2973 Madison, Wisconsin 53701-2973; Phone 266-0136

The creation of this rule will take effect on the first day of the month following its publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register pursuant to s.227.22(2), Stats.

Dated June 5, 2007,

KEVIN J. KENNEDY

Executive Director

NOTICE

This notice is to inform you that the proposed rulemaking of the State Elections Board, appearing in Clearinghouse Rule 07-043, creating ElBd.3.50, relating to the pricing of voter registration data obtained from the Statewide Voter Registration System, is submitted to the presiding officer of each house of the legislature. This submission includes the proposed rule, the Legislative Council's staff's report and the Elections Board's report. In addition, the Elections Board is placing in the Wisconsin Administrative Register a notice that the proposed rules have been submitted to the presiding officer of each house.

Dated June 5, 2007

STATE ELECTIONS BOARD

George A. Dunst

Legal Counsel

REPORT

OF

STATE ELECTIONS BOARD

Clearinghouse Rule 07-43
Rules Section ElBd. 3.50
Wisconsin Administrative Code

The State Elections Board proposes an order to create ElBd 3.50, relating to the pricing of voter registration data obtained from the Statewide Voter Registration System.

ANALYSIS PREPARED BY STATE ELECTIONS BOARD:

- 1. Statute(s) interpreted: ss.5.02(14) and (17), 6.27, 6.275, 6.29, 6.33, 6.34, 6.35, 6.36, 6.40, 6.45, 6.46, 6.48, 6.50, 6.54, 6.55, 6.56, and 6.57, Stats.
- 2. Statutory authority: ss.5.05(1)(f), 6.36(6), and 227.11(2)(a), Stats.
- 3. Explanation of agency authority: This amended rule interprets ss.5.02(14) and (17), 6.27, 6.275, 6.29, 6.33, 6.34, 6.35, 6.36, 6.40, 6.45, 6.46, 6.48, 6.50, 6.54, 6.55, 6.56, and 6.57, Stats. The rule requires that persons who request copies of information or data from the Statewide Voter registration System must pay, for each such copy, a charge calculated under the provisions of the rule according to the schedule established by the rule.

At the present time, the Elections Board is limited, in the fee that it can charge for information provided by the Statewide Voter Registration System, to the fee set by s.19.35(3), Stats.: "the actual, necessary and direct cost of reproduction and transcription of the record." The legislature in s.6.36 (6), Stats., has directed the Board to promulgate a rule that sets the amount of the fee at an amount estimated to cover both the cost of reproduction and the cost of maintaining the list at the state and local level. In order to recover both the cost of reproduction and the cost of maintaining the list at the state and local level, rather than having its charge limited to the amount currently provided under the public records law, the Board is promulgating ElBd 3.50.

4. Related statute(s) or rule(s): s.19.35, Stats.

- 5. Plain language analysis: The rule provides the methods by which the Elections Board staff will calculate the pricing to fulfill requests for voter registration data that are contained within the Statewide Voter Registration System.
- 6. Summary of, and comparison with, existing or proposed federal regulations: The federal government does not have a voter registration system and does not provide voter registration data for which it could exact a charge.
- 7. Comparison with rules in adjacent states: Illinois, Iowa, Michigan and Minnesota all have voter registration data systems which collect a charge for data relatively comparable to Wisconsin's.
- 8. Summary of factual data and analytical methodologies: The legislature has directed the board to calculate a cost of data and record reproduction and a cost of list maintenance and build those costs into its charges for copies of voter registration data and records. Those are the only data or methodology that affects the rule.
- 9. Analysis and supporting documents used to determine effect on small business or in preparation of economic impact report: The rule will have no effect on small business or economic impact.
- 10. List of persons appearing at the public hearing:

No public hearing was held. The rule was submitted pursuant to the 30-day notice procedure of s.227.16(2)(e), Stats. No person who will be affected by the rule filed a petition for a public hearing within the 30-day period provided by that statute.

11. Explanations of modifications to the proposed rule:

The State Elections Board makes no substantive modifications to this rule.

12. Response to Legislative Council staff report:

The State Elections Board adopts the Legislative Council's staff's comments and has incorporated the suggested changes in the rule, except that ElBd 3.50(4) has been re-written to accommodate Legislative Council's concerns and, in ElBd 3.50(1)(g), the phrase "but not limited to" has been left in the rule on the

advice of the Wisconsin Department of Justice to ensure that "core data element" could include elements other than "voter name, candidate, election official, or address."

13. Conclusion and recommended action:

The State Elections Board unanimously concludes that El.Bd 3.50 should be created. The creation of this rule is necessary to cover both the cost of reproduction and the cost of maintaining the list at the state and local level, as required by s.6.36 (6), Stats.

The Board recommends promulgation of this rule.

Respectfully submitted,

June 5, 2007

STATE ELECTIONS BOARD

WISCONSIN ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

STATE ELECTIONS BOARD

SECTION 1. ElBd 3.50 is created to read:

3.50 Charges for voter registration data.

- (1) In this section:
 - (a) "Custom report" means a report that is not programmed to run in the Statewide Voter Registration System at the time a request for the report is made, or a report that requires additional programming tasks.
 - (b) "Election official" has the same meaning as provided in s. 5.02 (4e), Stats.
 - (c) "Official registration list" has the same meaning as provided in s. 6.36, Stats.
 - (d) "Protected information" means any information that is protected from general public disclosure by ss. 6.36 (1) (b) 1.a. and 6.47, Stats.
 - (e) "Report" means a defined list of related voter registration data records generated from the Statewide Voter Registration System.
 - (f) "Voter registration data" means data contained in the official registration list.
 - (g) "Voter registration data record" means a set of related information requested from the official registration list which consists of a core data element and related attributes. A core data element is the basic unit of data that is being requested, including, but not limited to, a voter name, candidate, election official, or address. The related attributes consist of pieces of data associated with that core data element.
- (2) The official registration list shall be open to public inspection consistent with the requirements of ss. 6.36, 6.45 to 6.47, and ss. 19.31 to 19.36, Stats.
- (3) Any person may obtain, from the official registration list, voter registration data that is not protected information, upon payment of the applicable charges.
- (4) The charge for reports in electronic format is a \$25 base fee per report; plus \$5 for the first 1,000 voter registration data records, or up to 1,000 voter registration data records; plus \$5 for each additional 1,000 voter registration data records, rounded to the nearest thousand. The maximum charge for an electronic report is \$12,500.

- (5) The charge for a paper copy of a report is \$.25 per page, plus the cost of postage and shipping.
- (6) Any request for a report or custom report submitted to the elections board shall be made in writing by the requester or reduced to writing by the elections board's staff. Any request by the elections board for payment in advance for the report requested shall include a copy of the report request in writing as submitted by the requester or as memorialized by the elections board's staff.
- (7) Any person may request a copy of the poll list used at an election from the municipal or county clerk who has custody of the list. The charge for a copy of a poll list provided by a municipal or county clerk shall be a charge determined by that clerk not to exceed the cost of reproduction.
- (8) The elections board, its staff, and each municipal or county election official shall take steps to ensure that any protected information contained in the Statewide Voter Registration System, or on a poll list, is not made available for public inspection.
- (9) If a request for voter registration data requires a custom report, and the elections board staff determines that it can produce the report, the charge for producing the custom report charged to the requester shall be calculated by the elections board's staff on a case-by-case basis and shall include, in addition to the charges articulated in subs. (4) and (5), any applicable charges for handling and mailing; charges for reproduction, including programming costs; and costs of maintenance of the Statewide Voter Registration System as authorized by s. 6.36(6), Stats. Requests fulfilled under this subsection are not subject to the maximum charge limitations in subs. (4) and (5).
- (10) The money received from requests for voter registration data shall remain with the municipality, county, or elections board, whichever produces and provides the report.

INITIAL REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS:

The creation of this rule does not affect business.

FISCAL ESTIMATE:

The creation of this rule has no fiscal effect.

CONTACT PERSON:

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Dated June 5, 2007,

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