

State of Misconsin 2011 - 2012 LEGISLATURE



ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 4, TO 2011 ASSEMBLY BILL 7

May 11, 2011 – Offered by Representative BARCA.

1 AN ACT *to create* 5.05 (16) of the statutes; **relating to:** administration of elections.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This substitute amendment directs the Government Accountability Board (GAB) to analyze and review the process for administering elections on a continuing basis. The review must include identification of statutory violations as well as problems or inefficiencies that occur in administering specific elections and examination of potential solutions to the problems and opportunities to improve the administrative process without compromising the integrity of the process. Under the substitute amendment, GAB may adopt customized software and prescribe the use of that software by counties or municipalities or may require counties or municipalities to use specific noncustomized software identified by GAB for purposes specified by GAB if GAB determines that use of the software will enhance the elections administration process and will not compromise the integrity of elections. The substitute amendment also permits GAB to exempt categories of counties or municipalities from any such requirements under certain conditions.

No similar provisions exist currently.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 5.05 (16) of the statutes is created to read:

- 5.05 **(16)** ELECTION ADMINISTRATION PROCESS. (a) The board shall analyze and review the process for administering elections on a continuing basis. The review shall include identification of statutory violations as well as problems or inefficiencies that occur in administering specific elections and examination of potential solutions to the problems and opportunities to improve the administrative process without compromising the integrity of the process.
- (b) The board may adopt customized software and prescribe use of that software by counties or municipalities or may require counties or municipalities to use specific noncustomized software identified by the board for purposes specified by the board if the board determines that use of the software will enhance the elections administrative process and will not compromise the integrity of that process.
- (c) Prior to adopting or prescribing any software for use by counties or municipalities, the board shall refer its proposed action to the members of the election assistance commission standards board from this state for their review. After receiving the report of that review, the board shall hold at least one public hearing concerning its proposed action.
- (d) The board may exempt categories of counties or municipalities from using any software prescribed under par. (b) if the board determines that universal usage would impose costs on those categories of counties or municipalities that would not justify the benefits to the elections administration process that would be realized from that usage.