



State of Wisconsin
2013 - 2014 LEGISLATURE



LRB-1763/P2

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PRELIMINARY DRAFT - NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

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1 **AN ACT** *to repeal* 11.09, 11.26 (4), 11.26 (9), 11.38 (1) (a) 3. and 11.38 (2) (c); *to*
2 *renumber and amend* 6.97 (3) (b), 11.01 (16) (b), 11.05 (8) and 11.20 (4); *to*
3 *amend* 5.15 (6) (b), 5.35 (6) (a) 2., 5.90 (1), 6.15 (2) (bm), 6.29 (2) (b), 6.34 (2),
4 6.34 (3) (a) 8., 6.55 (2) (b), 6.55 (2) (c) 1., 6.79 (2) (a), 6.79 (2) (d), 6.82 (1) (a), 6.86
5 (1) (b), 6.88 (3) (a), 7.30 (2) (a) and (b), 7.51 (5) (b), 9.01 (1) (ag) 1m., 9.10 (2) (b),
6 9.10 (2) (d), 11.01 (16) (intro.), 11.01 (16) (a) (intro.), 11.05 (1), 11.05 (2), 11.05
7 (2r), 11.05 (3) (c), 11.05 (12) (b), 11.06 (1) (intro.), 11.06 (1) (j), 11.12 (1) (d), 11.12
8 (3), 11.12 (4), 11.16 (1) (d), 11.19 (2), 11.23 (1), 11.23 (3), 11.26 (1) (a), 11.26 (1)
9 (b), 11.26 (1) (c), 11.26 (2) (a), 11.26 (2) (b), 11.26 (2) (c), 11.26 (5), 11.26 (6), 11.26
10 (8) (a), 11.26 (8) (b), 11.26 (8) (c), 11.26 (17) (a), 11.29 (1), 11.31 (1) (a), 11.31 (1)
11 (b), 11.31 (1) (c), 11.31 (1) (d), 11.31 (1) (e), 11.31 (1) (f), 11.38 (title) and (1) (a)
12 1., 11.38 (1) (b) and 13.625 (1) (c) (intro.); *to repeal and recreate* 11.01 (16) (a)
13 1.; and *to create* 6.34 (3) (a) 12., 6.86 (1) (bb), 6.97 (3) (b) 2., 11.01 (11g) and (11r),
14 11.01 (16) (b) 1., 11.05 (11g), 11.06 (1g), 11.20 (4) (a) 1., 11.20 (4) (a) 2., 11.25 (4),
15 11.26 (18), 11.31 (2m), 11.33 (2m) and 11.38 (1) (a) 4. of the statutes; **relating**

1 **to:** various changes in the campaign finance laws; identifying documentation
2 to establish proof of residency for voter registration; recording the type of
3 identifying document provided as proof of residence; limiting the times for
4 voting by absentee ballots in person; the method of reporting election returns
5 by municipalities; fees for election recounts; the method of recounting votes cast
6 with automatic tabulating equipment; residency of election officials; and recall
7 petition requirements.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill makes various changes in the campaign finance, election, and lobbying regulation laws. Significant provisions include:

Disclosure of political activity

Currently, with certain exceptions, individuals who accept contributions, organizations that make or accept contributions, and individuals who or organizations that incur obligations or make disbursements for the purpose of influencing an election for state or local office are required to register with the appropriate filing officer or agency and to file financial reports with that officer or agency, regardless of whether they act in conjunction with or independently of any candidate who is supported or opposed.

This bill provides that registration and reporting requirements apply to any communication that contains certain explicit terms with reference to a clearly identified candidate that expressly advocates the election or defeat of that candidate and unambiguously relates to that candidate. The bill also provides that these requirements do not apply to a communication made by an individual other than a candidate, or by an organization that receives donations or other income not directed at political activity, if the communication does not expressly advocate the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate or the adoption or rejection of a question at a referendum. The change in the scope of reportable activity under the bill also affects contribution limitations and prohibitions by causing the term “contribution” to exclude the cost of any communication that is not reportable under the bill.

Corporate political activity

Under current law, corporations and cooperatives are prohibited from making contributions or disbursements (expenditures) in campaigns for state or local office. Violators are subject to a forfeiture (civil penalty) of not more than \$500 for each violation. Intentional violators are guilty of a Class I felony, which is punishable by a fine of not more than \$10,000 or imprisonment for not more than three and one-half years, or both, except that if a violation involves \$100 or less, the violation is punishable as a misdemeanor with a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment

for not more than six months, or both. A recent decision of the U.S. Supreme Court casts doubt upon whether this law is enforceable as it applies to disbursements. See *Citizens United v. F.E.C.*, 130 S. Ct. 876 (2010).

This bill deletes the current prohibition on disbursements by corporations and cooperatives. The bill permits a corporation, cooperative, or other entity that is not primarily organized for political purposes to sponsor a separate individual or committee that is not organized exclusively for political purposes but makes independent disbursements. Under the bill, a corporation, cooperative, or other entity that engages in such activity is not subject to periodic reporting requirements on account of such activity, including disclosure of sources of income, unless the corporation, cooperative, or other entity receives contributions or other income for the express purpose of making independent disbursements. However, the corporation, cooperative, or other entity must register with the appropriate filing officer, appoint a treasurer, file periodic reports of administrative expenses on behalf of the sponsored entity and contributions made to the entity, and include an attribution on its political communications. The bill also permits corporations and cooperatives to make contributions to committees that make disbursements independently of any candidate or authorized committee or agent of a candidate. Under the bill, no such committee may make a contribution to a candidate. The bill provides that corporations and cooperatives that make such contributions are not subject to periodic reporting requirements for that activity, including disclosure of sources of income, but any committee that receives such a contribution is subject to registration and periodic reporting requirements, as currently provided for such committees.

Campaign finance registration, record keeping, and reporting thresholds

(GAB) With some exceptions, current law requires an individual, candidate, group, or ~~committee that makes or accepts a contribution~~, incurs an obligation, or makes a disbursement for political purposes and in an amount that exceeds \$25 to register with the Government Accountability Board. This bill increases that threshold from \$25 to \$1,000.

Under current law, a registrant is not subject to the filing requirements related to campaign financing if the registrant does not anticipate accepting contributions, making disbursements, or incurring obligations in an aggregate amount exceeding \$1,000 in a year or does not anticipate accepting any contribution from a single source, other than a candidate's contribution to his or her own campaign, exceeding \$100 in a year or, for purposes of promoting or opposing a referendum, \$750 in a year.

Under this bill, a registrant is not subject to the filing requirements if the registrant does not anticipate accepting contributions, making disbursements, or incurring obligations in an aggregate amount exceeding \$2,000 in a year or does not anticipate accepting any contribution from a single source, other than a candidate's contribution to his or her own campaign, exceeding \$200 in a year or, for purposes of promoting or opposing a referendum, \$1,500 in a year.

Expenditures made to solicit contributions to a segregated fund

Current law permits any corporation, including a foreign corporation and a limited liability company, cooperative, or association, to establish, administer, and

solicit contributions to a separate segregated fund set up by the corporation, cooperative, or association for the purpose of supporting or opposing a candidate for state or local office. Although current law prohibits the corporation, association, or cooperative from making a contribution to the segregated fund, the corporation, cooperative, or association may expend up to \$500 annually for the purpose of soliciting contributions. This bill eliminates the \$500 cap on expenditures made to solicit contributions to the segregated fund.

Contribution limits

This bill increases the limits for contributions by an individual or committee to a candidate's campaign as follows:

- 1. For candidates for governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, state treasurer, attorney general, state superintendent, or justice, from \$10,000 to \$20,000.
- 2. For candidates for state senator, from \$1,000 to \$2,000.
- 3. For candidates for state assembly representative, from \$500 to \$1,000.

Under current law, the total amount that an individual may contribute annually to all candidates for state and local offices, and to persons who are required to register for campaign financing purposes, is \$10,000. The bill eliminates this limitation.

Under current law, a political party may not receive more than \$150,000 in value of its contributions in any biennium from committees, other than political party or legislative campaign committees. The bill increases that amount to \$300,000.

Under current law, a political party may not receive more than \$6,000 in value of its contributions annually from any specific committee, excluding a political party or legislative campaign committee. The bill increases that amount to \$12,000.

The bill also increases the total value of contributions that a committee, other than a political party or legislative campaign committee, may make to a political party from \$6,000 each year to \$12,000 each year.

Finally, the bill provides that, beginning on July 1, 2015, and every two years thereafter, the Government Accountability Board will modify the contribution limits under the campaign finance laws to adjust for the change in the consumer price index for the preceding two-year period ending on December 31.

Disbursement levels

Under current law,

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This bill increases the disbursement levels as follows:

- 1. For candidates for governor, ~~from \$1,078,200 to \$2,156,400~~
- 2. For candidates for lieutenant governor, ~~from \$323,475 to \$646,950~~
- 3. For candidates for attorney general, ~~from \$539,000 to \$1,078,000~~
- 4. For candidates for secretary of state, state treasurer, state superintendent, or justice, ~~from \$215,625 to \$431,250~~
- 5. For candidates for state senator, ~~from \$34,500 to \$69,000~~ total in the primary and election and ~~from \$21,575 to \$43,150~~ for the maximum disbursement for either the primary or the election.

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6. For candidates for state assembly representative, ~~from~~ \$17,250 ~~to~~ \$34,500 total in the primary and election and ~~from~~ \$10,775 ~~to~~ \$21,550 for the maximum disbursement for either the primary or the election.

The bill also provides that, beginning on July 1, 2015, and every two years thereafter, the Government Accountability Board will modify these disbursement levels to adjust for the change in the consumer price index for the preceding two-year period ending on December 31.

Campaign finance reporting

Currently, individuals and committees supporting or opposing candidates for office, and individuals, groups, and corporations supporting or opposing a referendum, must submit reports of contributions received, contributions or disbursements made, and obligations incurred to the appropriate filing officer twice each year: on or after January 1 but no later than January 31; and on or after July 1 but no later than July 20. This bill changes the reporting requirement to monthly in an election year and quarterly in January, April, July, and October in a nonelection year. All such reports must be submitted seven days before the end of the month.

Campaign finance record keeping

With some exceptions, current law requires an individual, candidate, group, or committee that makes or accepts a contribution, incurs an obligation, or makes a disbursement for political purposes and in an amount that exceeds \$25 to register with the Government Accountability Board. Under current law, each registrant must maintain records of any contribution, disbursement, and incurred obligation that exceeds \$10. This bill increases the \$10 record-keeping threshold to \$20.

Communications with members of certain entities

Current law permits any corporation, cooperative, unincorporated cooperative association, or voluntary association to make a disbursement for the purpose of communicating only with its members to endorse a candidate, explain its views or interests, or take a position on a referendum without being subject to reporting requirements for this activity. This bill clarifies that any such communication, while remaining exempt from the reporting requirement, may include information on how a member may contribute to an endorsed candidate.

Campaign contributions by lobbyists

Currently, a lobbyist may make a campaign contribution to a partisan elective state official or candidate for partisan elective state office in the year of the official's or candidate's election between June 1 and the day of the election. This bill extends the time during which a lobbyist may make such a contribution to between April 15 and the day of the election.

Communications by legislators

Currently, with certain exceptions, no person who is elected to state or local office and who becomes a candidate for national, state, or local office may use public funds for the cost of materials or distribution of 50 or more pieces of substantially identical material distributed during the period beginning on the first day for circulation of nomination papers as a candidate (or certain other dates for candidates who do not file nomination papers) and ending on the date of the election at which

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the person's name appears on the ballot, or on the date of the primary election at which the person's name so appears if the person is not nominated at the primary.

This bill provides that this prohibition does not apply to the cost of materials or distribution of a communication made by a member of the legislature to an address located within the legislative district represented by that member during the 45-day period following declaration of a state of emergency by the governor affecting any county in which the district is located if the communication relates solely to the subject of the emergency.

Exemption from proof of identification requirement

Currently, with certain exceptions, an elector who votes in an election must present proof of identification in order to vote. The proof may consist of one of a number of documents specified by law that contains the name of the individual to whom the document was issued, which name conforms to the individual's voter registration, if the individual is registered to vote, and with limited exceptions, that contains a photograph of the individual. With certain exceptions, an elector who casts an absentee ballot by mail must enclose a copy of his or her proof of identification in the envelope containing his or her ballot. One form of acceptable proof of identification is a Wisconsin driver's license or identification card issued by the Department of Transportation. An individual who applies for a Wisconsin operator's license or identification card may be exempted from the current requirement to be photographed under narrowly defined circumstances.

This bill exempts an elector from the requirement to provide proof of identification if the elector appears at the polling place serving his or her residence on election day, casts a provisional ballot, and subsequently files at the office of the municipal clerk or board of election commissioners where the elector resides an affidavit affirming one of the following: 1) that he or she is indigent and cannot obtain proof of identification without payment of a fee; 2) that he or she has a religious objection to being photographed; or 3) that he or she cannot obtain the documentation required to obtain proof of identification.

Proof of residency for voter registration

With limited exceptions, current law requires each person who is an eligible elector and who wishes to vote in this state to first register. In certain circumstances, an eligible elector must submit proof of residence with his or her registration form or prior to being permitted to vote. For example, a person who registers in the clerk's office of his or her municipality within 20 days of an election must provide proof of residence in order to obtain registration. Current law provides a list of qualifying identifying documents and specifies the information that must appear on those documents. Identifying documents must contain the registrant's name and current address and qualifying identifying documents include a real estate tax bill, a bank statement, and a current and valid Wisconsin driver license or identification card.

This bill prohibits an elector from providing an identifying document that is stored or displayed electronically to establish proof of residence; the identifying document must be provided in hard-copy form. The bill adds to the list of qualifying identifying documents a bill for cellular or wireless telephone service for the period

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commencing no earlier than 90 days before election day and a credit card statement for the period commencing no earlier than 90 days before election day.

Registration

This bill requires the municipal clerk, clerk's agent, and other individuals authorized to accept receipt of a registration form from an elector to enter on the registration form or poll list, and in some cases both the registration form and poll list, the type of identifying document submitted by the elector as proof of residence when proof of residence is required of the elector.

Voting by absentee ballots in person

Under current law, a person may apply to the municipal clerk in person to vote using an absentee ballot. In-person applications to vote using an absentee ballot may be made beginning on the third Monday preceding the election and ending on the later of 5 p.m. or the close of business on the Friday preceding the election.

Under this bill, in-person applications to vote using absentee ballots may be received only Monday to Friday between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., except that an individual may make an appointment with the actual city, town, or village clerk, as appropriate, so that the clerk, not a member of the clerk's staff or a designated agent, may receive the individual's application made in person after 6 p.m. or anytime on Saturday or Sunday, not including the Saturday and Sunday after the Friday preceding the election.

Reporting of election returns by municipalities

Currently, the voters of each ward vote at the same polling place, which is generally separate from other polling places in a municipality. Election returns are reported by ward unless otherwise authorized by law. Currently, no later than 60 days before each September primary and general election, and no later than 30 days before each other election, the governing body of a municipality may combine two or more wards for voting purposes to permit the use of a common polling place. In municipalities with a population of 35,000 or more, a municipality must continue to report all election returns by ward even where wards are combined for voting purposes at a single location. Other municipalities may report returns for combined wards together unless a separate ballot is required in a partisan election, in which case separate returns must be reported for the offices listed on each separate ballot so that the results of the various elections may be determined.

Under this bill, any municipality having a population of 35,000 or more may provide that election returns for any ward having a population of 20 or less will be combined with returns for any adjacent ward, unless separate returns are required to determine the results of an election. A municipality, however, may not combine wards if the total population of the combined wards would exceed the applicable population range for wards in that municipality. The bill allows the municipal clerk to estimate ward populations for the purpose of combining returns if the population cannot be determined from census results.

Fees for election recounts

Currently, any candidate who receives votes in an election and any elector who votes in a referendum may petition for a recount of the votes cast. If the difference

between the votes cast for the leading candidate and those cast for the petitioner or the difference between the affirmative and negative votes cast upon any referendum question is at least ten votes if 1,000 or fewer votes are cast or more than 0.5 percent but not more than 2 percent of the total votes if more than 1,000 votes are cast, the petitioner must pay a fee of \$5 per ward or \$5 per municipality if a municipality is not divided into wards. The bill increases that amount to \$25 per ward or \$25 per municipality if a municipality is not divided into wards.

Recounting votes cast with automatic tabulating equipment

Currently, with a limited exception, a board of canvassers must use automatic tabulating equipment to conduct a recount of ballots that are in machine-readable form. However, a candidate, or an elector if the recount is for a referendum question, may petition the circuit court for an order requiring ballots in machine-readable form to be recounted by hand or by another method approved by the court. To obtain such an order, the candidate or elector must show by clear and convincing evidence that due to an irregularity, defect, or mistake committed during the voting or canvassing process the results of a recount using automatic tabulating equipment will produce incorrect results and there is a substantial probability that recounting the ballots by hand or by another method will produce a more correct result and change the outcome of the election.

This bill permits the board of canvassers conducting a recount to determine to conduct the recount of a specific election by hand unless a court orders the recount to be conducted by another method.

Residency of election officials

Current law generally requires election officials to be qualified electors of the municipality in which the officials serve. In addition, current law generally requires election officials who serve at a polling place to be qualified electors of the ward for which the polling place is established, whenever a municipality is divided into wards. However, special registration deputies who register electors at a polling place on election day, election officials who are appointed to work at a polling place that serves more than one ward, election officials who are reassigned by a municipal clerk or board of election commissioners to correct staffing deficiencies, or election officials who are appointed to fill a temporary or permanent vacancy need not be electors of any particular ward, but must be qualified electors of the municipality in which they serve. Officials who are appointed to work at a polling place that serves more than one ward must be electors of one of the wards served by the polling place. A high school pupil who is 16 or 17 years of age may serve as an inspector (poll worker) at the polling place serving his or her residence. In addition, if the municipal clerk or the executive director of a board of election commissioners or a deputy to the clerk or executive director serves as a special registration deputy or is appointed to work at a polling place to fill a vacancy in an inspector position, the clerk, executive director, or deputy need not be a resident of the municipality in which he or she serves.

This bill provides, with certain exceptions, that an individual who serves as an election official at a polling place on election day need be an elector only of a county in which the municipality where the official serves is located. An individual who

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serves as the chief inspector at a polling place must be a qualified elector of the municipality where he or she serves unless no qualified candidate is available or the chief inspector is appointed to fill a temporary vacancy. A high school pupil who serves as an inspector must continue to meet the current residency requirement.

Recall petition requirements

Under current law, a petition for the recall of a city, village, town, town sanitary district, or school district officer, in addition to other requirements, must indicate a reason for the recall that is related to the officer's official responsibilities. Under this bill, any person who wishes to circulate a petition for the recall of a city, village, town, town sanitary district, or school district officer must include with the person's registration under the campaign finance laws a statement indicating that the officer for whom the recall is sought has been charged with committing a crime or violating a code of ethics law applicable to local officials. The person must also include a copy of the criminal or civil complaint alleging the crime or violation.

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

1 **SECTION 1.** 5.15 (6) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 5.15 (6) (b) No later than 30 days before each election, the governing body of
3 any municipality may by resolution combine 2 or more wards for voting purposes to
4 facilitate using a common polling place. Whenever wards are so combined, the
5 original ward numbers shall continue to be utilized for all official purposes. Except
6 as otherwise authorized under this paragraph, every municipality having a
7 population of 35,000 or more shall maintain separate returns for each ward so
8 combined. In municipalities having a population of 35,000 or more, the governing
9 body may provide in a resolution that returns for any ward having a population of
10 20 or less be combined with returns for any adjacent ward, if the total population of
11 the combined wards does not exceed the applicable population range under sub. (2)
12 (b) for wards in that municipality. In municipalities having a population of less than
13 35,000, the governing body may provide in the resolution that returns shall be
14 maintained only for each group of combined wards at any election. Whenever a

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1 governing body provides ~~for common ballot boxes and ballots or voting machines,~~
2 that returns shall be maintained only for combined wards under this paragraph, the
3 municipality shall report separate returns shall be maintained results for each
4 separate ballot required under ss. ~~5.62 and 5.58~~ to 5.64 at the ~~partisan primary and~~
5 ~~general election~~. The municipal clerk shall transmit a copy of the resolution to the
6 county clerk of each county in which the municipality is contained. In municipalities
7 having a population of less than 35,000, the resolution shall remain in effect for each
8 election until modified or rescinded, or until a new division is made under this
9 section. Whenever needed for purposes of this paragraph, the municipal clerk shall
10 determine the population of each ward in his or her municipality. If the population
11 of a ward cannot be determined from census results, the clerk shall determine the
12 population of the smallest unit encompassing the entire ward that can be determined
13 from census results. The clerk shall then divide the land area of the ward by the land
14 area of that unit. The clerk shall then multiply that result by the population of the
15 unit to determine the population of the ward for purposes of this paragraph.

16 **SECTION 2.** 5.35 (6) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

17 5.35 **(6)** (a) 2. A copy of the election fraud laws provided in s. 12.13 (1) and (3)
18 (intro), (d), (f), (g), (k), (L), (o), (q), (r), (u), and (x), together with the applicable
19 penalties provided in s. 12.60 (1). The materials described in this subdivision shall
20 be positioned so that the electors entering the polling place approach and pass by the
21 materials.

22 **SECTION 3.** 5.90 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

23 5.90 **(1)** Except as otherwise provided in this subchapter, recounts of votes cast
24 on an electronic voting system shall be conducted in the manner prescribed in s. 9.01.
25 Except as provided in this subsection, sub. (2), and s. 9.01 (1) (b) 8s., if the ballots are

1 distributed to the electors, the board of canvassers shall recount the ballots with
2 automatic tabulating equipment. The board of canvassers shall test the automatic
3 tabulating equipment to be used prior to the recount as provided in s. 5.84, and then
4 the official ballots or the record of the votes cast shall be recounted on the automatic
5 tabulating equipment. In addition, the board of canvassers shall check the ballots
6 for the presence or absence of the initials and other distinguishing marks, shall
7 examine the ballots marked “Rejected”, “Defective” and “Objected to” to determine
8 the propriety of such labels, and shall compare the “Duplicate Overvoted Ballots”
9 and “Duplicate Damaged Ballots” with their respective originals to determine the
10 correctness of the duplicates. Unless a court orders a recount to be conducted by
11 another method under sub. (2), the board of canvassers may determine to conduct the
12 recount of a specific election by hand. If electronic voting machines are used, the
13 board of canvassers shall perform the recount using the permanent paper record of
14 the votes cast by each elector, as generated by the machines.

15 **SECTION 4.** 6.15 (2) (bm) of the statutes is amended to read:

16 6.15 (2) (bm) Except as authorized in s. 6.79 (7), when making application in
17 person at the office of the municipal clerk, each applicant shall present proof of
18 identification. If any document presented by the applicant is not proof of residence
19 under s. 6.34, the applicant shall also present proof of residence under s. 6.34. The
20 clerk shall verify that the name on the proof of identification presented by the elector
21 conforms to the name on the elector’s application ~~and~~, shall verify that any
22 photograph appearing on that document reasonably resembles the elector, and shall
23 enter the type of identifying document submitted by the elector as proof of residence
24 on the application form.

25 **SECTION 5.** 6.29 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

1 6.29 (2) (b) Upon the filing of the registration form required by this section, the
2 municipal clerk or clerk's agent under s. 6.33 (5) (b) shall enter the type of identifying
3 document submitted by the elector as proof of residence on the registration form and
4 issue a certificate containing the name and address of the elector addressed to the
5 inspectors of the proper ward or election district directing that the elector be
6 permitted to cast his or her vote if the elector complies with all requirements for
7 voting at the polling place. The certificate shall be numbered serially, prepared in
8 duplicate and one copy preserved in the office of the municipal clerk.

9 **SECTION 6.** 6.34 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

10 6.34 (2) Upon completion of a registration form prescribed under s. 6.33, each
11 eligible elector who is required to register under s. 6.27, who is not a military elector
12 or an overseas elector, and who registers after the close of registration under s. 6.29
13 or 6.86 (3) (a) 2., shall provide ~~an~~ one of the identifying document that establishes
14 documents specified under sub. (3) to establish proof of residence ~~under sub. (3).~~
15 Each eligible elector who is required to register under s. 6.27, who is not a military
16 elector or an overseas elector, who registers by mail, and who has not voted in an
17 election in this state shall, if voting in person, provide ~~an~~ one of the identifying
18 document that establishes documents specified under sub. (3) to establish proof of
19 residence ~~under sub. (3)~~ or, if voting by absentee ballot, provide a copy of an
20 identifying document specified under sub. (3) that establishes proof of residence
21 ~~under sub. (3)~~. If the elector registered by mail, the identifying document may not
22 be a residential lease. Any identifying document provided to establish proof of
23 residence under this section may not be stored or displayed electronically, but must
24 be provided in hard-copy form.

25 **SECTION 7.** 6.34 (3) (a) 8. of the statutes is amended to read:

1 6.34 (3) (a) 8. A utility bill, including a bill for cellular or wireless telephone
2 service, for the period commencing not earlier than 90 days before the day
3 registration is made.

4 **SECTION 8.** 6.34 (3) (a) 12. of the statutes is created to read:

5 6.34 (3) (a) 12. A credit card statement for the period commencing not earlier
6 than 90 days before the day registration is made.

7 **SECTION 9.** 6.55 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

8 6.55 (2) (b) Upon executing the registration form under par. (a), the elector
9 shall provide proof of residence under s. 6.34. The signing by the elector executing
10 the registration form shall be in the presence of the special registration deputy or
11 inspector ~~who~~. Upon receipt of the registration form, the deputy or inspector shall
12 enter the type of identifying document submitted by the elector as proof of residence
13 in the space provided on the form. The deputy or inspector shall then print his or her
14 name on and sign the form, indicating that the deputy or inspector has accepted the
15 form. Upon compliance with this procedure, the elector shall be permitted to cast his
16 or her vote, if the elector complies with all other requirements for voting at the polling
17 place.

18 **SECTION 10.** 6.55 (2) (c) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

19 6.55 (2) (c) 1. As an alternative to registration at the polling place under pars.
20 (a) and (b), the board of election commissioners, or the governing body of any
21 municipality, may by resolution require a person who qualifies as an elector and who
22 is not registered and desires to register on the day of an election to do so at another
23 readily accessible location in the same building as the polling place serving the
24 elector's residence or at an alternate polling place assigned under s. 5.25 (5) (b),
25 instead of at the polling place serving the elector's residence. In such case, the

1 municipal clerk shall prominently post a notice of the registration location at the
2 polling place. An eligible elector who desires to register shall execute a registration
3 form as prescribed under par. (a) and provide proof of residence as provided under
4 s. 6.34. The signing by the person executing the registration form shall be in the
5 presence of the municipal clerk, deputy clerk, or special registration deputy. Upon
6 receipt of the registration form, the municipal clerk, deputy clerk, or special
7 registration deputy shall enter the type of identifying document submitted by the
8 elector as proof of residence in the space provided on the form. The municipal clerk,
9 the deputy clerk, or the special registration deputy shall then print his or her name
10 and sign the form, indicating that the clerk, deputy clerk, or deputy has accepted the
11 form. Upon proper completion of registration, the municipal clerk, deputy clerk, or
12 special registration deputy shall serially number the registration and give one copy
13 to the person for presentation at the polling place serving the person's residence or
14 an alternate polling place assigned under s. 5.25 (5) (b).

15 **SECTION 11.** 6.79 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

16 6.79 (2) (a) Unless information on the poll list is entered electronically, the
17 municipal clerk shall supply the inspectors with 2 copies of the most current official
18 registration list or lists prepared under s. 6.36 (2) (a) for use as poll lists at the polling
19 place. Except as provided in subs. (3) (b), (6), and (7), each eligible elector, before
20 receiving a serial number, shall state his or her full name and address and present
21 to the officials proof of identification. The officials shall verify that the name on the
22 proof of identification presented by the elector conforms to the name on the poll list
23 or separate list and shall verify that any photograph appearing on that document
24 reasonably resembles the elector. The officials shall then require the elector to enter
25 his or her signature on the poll list, supplemental list, or separate list maintained

1 under par. (c) unless the elector is exempt from the signature requirement under s.
2 6.36 (2) (a). The officials shall verify that the name and address stated by the elector
3 conform to the elector's name and address on the poll list.

4 **SECTION 12.** 6.79 (2) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 6.79 (2) (d) If the poll list indicates that proof of residence under s. 6.34 is
6 required and the document provided by the elector under par. (a) does not constitute
7 proof of residence under s. 6.34, the officials shall require the elector to provide proof
8 of residence. If proof of residence is provided, the officials shall enter the type of
9 identifying document submitted as proof of residence in the space provided on the
10 registration form and shall verify that the name and address on the ~~identification~~
11 ~~identifying document submitted as proof of residence provided~~ is the same as the
12 name and address shown on the registration list. If proof of residence is required and
13 not provided, or if the elector does not present proof of identification under par. (a),
14 whenever required, the officials shall offer the opportunity for the elector to vote
15 under s. 6.97.

16 **SECTION 13.** 6.82 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 6.82 (1) (a) When any inspectors are informed that an eligible elector is at the
18 entrance to the polling place who as a result of disability is unable to enter the polling
19 place, they shall permit the elector to be assisted in marking a ballot by any
20 individual selected by the elector, except the elector's employer or an agent of that
21 employer or an officer or agent of a labor organization which represents the elector.
22 Except as authorized in s. 6.79 (3) (b), (6), and (7), the individual selected by the
23 elector shall present to the inspectors proof of identification and, if the proof of
24 identification does not constitute proof of residence under s. 6.34, shall also provide
25 proof of residence under s. 6.34 for the assisted elector, whenever required, and all

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1 other information necessary for the elector to obtain a ballot under s. 6.79 (2). The
2 inspectors shall verify that the name on the proof of identification presented by the
3 person assisting the elector conforms to the elector's name on the poll list or separate
4 list ~~and~~, shall verify that any photograph appearing on that document reasonably
5 resembles the elector, and shall enter the type of identifying document submitted by
6 the assisted elector as proof of residence in the space provided on the poll list or
7 separate list. The inspectors shall then issue a ballot to the individual selected by
8 the elector and shall accompany the individual to the polling place entrance where
9 the assistance is to be given. If the ballot is a paper ballot, the assisting individual
10 shall fold the ballot after the ballot is marked by the assisting individual. The
11 assisting individual shall then immediately take the ballot into the polling place and
12 give the ballot to an inspector. The inspector shall distinctly announce that he or she
13 has "a ballot offered by (stating person's name), an elector who, as a result of
14 disability, is unable to enter the polling place without assistance". The inspector
15 shall then ask, "Does anyone object to the reception of this ballot?" If no objection
16 is made, the inspectors shall record the elector's name under s. 6.79 and deposit the
17 ballot in the ballot box, and shall make a notation on the poll list: "Ballot received
18 at poll entrance".

19 **SECTION 14.** 6.86 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

20 6.86 (1) (b) Except as provided in this section, if application is made by mail,
21 the application shall be received no later than 5 p.m. on the 5th day immediately
22 preceding the election. If Except as provided in par. (bb), if application is made in
23 person, the application shall be made no earlier than the opening of business on the
24 3rd Monday preceding the election and no later than ~~5 p.m. or the close of business,~~
25 ~~whichever is later,~~ 6 p.m. on the Friday preceding the election. Except as provided

1 in par. (c), if the elector is making written application for an absentee ballot at the
2 partisan primary, the general election, the presidential preference primary, or a
3 special election for national office, and the application indicates that the elector is
4 a military elector, as defined in s. 6.34 (1), the application shall be received by the
5 municipal clerk no later than 5 p.m. on election day. If the application indicates that
6 the reason for requesting an absentee ballot is that the elector is a sequestered juror,
7 the application shall be received no later than 5 p.m. on election day. If the
8 application is received after 5 p.m. on the Friday immediately preceding the election,
9 the municipal clerk or the clerk's agent shall immediately take the ballot to the court
10 in which the elector is serving as a juror and deposit it with the judge. The judge shall
11 recess court, as soon as convenient, and give the elector the ballot. The judge shall
12 then witness the voting procedure as provided in s. 6.87 and shall deliver the ballot
13 to the clerk or agent of the clerk who shall deliver it to the polling place or, in
14 municipalities where absentee ballots are canvassed under s. 7.52, to the municipal
15 clerk as required in s. 6.88. If application is made under sub. (2) or (2m), the
16 application may be received no later than 5 p.m. on the Friday immediately
17 preceding the election.

18 **SECTION 15.** 6.86 (1) (bb) of the statutes is created to read:

19 6.86 (1) (bb) An application made in person may only be received Monday to
20 Friday between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., except that an individual may make
21 an appointment with the actual city, town, or village clerk, as appropriate, so that,
22 notwithstanding s. 7.21 (1), the clerk, not a member of the clerk's staff or a designated
23 agent, may receive the individual's application made in person after 6 p.m. or
24 anytime on Saturday or Sunday, not including the Saturday and Sunday after the
25 Friday preceding the election.

1 **SECTION 16.** 6.88 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 6.88 (3) (a) Except in municipalities where absentee ballots are canvassed
3 under s. 7.52, at any time between the opening and closing of the polls on election day,
4 the inspectors shall, in the same room where votes are being cast, in such a manner
5 that members of the public can hear and see the procedures, open the carrier
6 envelope only, and announce the name of the absent elector or the identification
7 serial number of the absent elector if the elector has a confidential listing under s.
8 6.47 (2). When the inspectors find that the certification has been properly executed,
9 the applicant is a qualified elector of the ward or election district, and the applicant
10 has not voted in the election, they shall enter an indication on the poll list next to the
11 applicant's name indicating an absentee ballot is cast by the elector. They shall then
12 open the envelope containing the ballot in a manner so as not to deface or destroy the
13 certification thereon. The inspectors shall take out the ballot without unfolding it
14 or permitting it to be unfolded or examined. Unless the ballot is cast under s. 6.95,
15 the inspectors shall verify that the ballot has been endorsed by the issuing clerk. If
16 the poll list indicates that proof of residence under s. 6.34 is required and proof of
17 residence is enclosed, the inspectors shall enter the type of identifying document
18 submitted by the absent elector on the poll list in the space provided. If the poll list
19 indicates that proof of residence under s. 6.34 is required and no proof of residence
20 is enclosed or the name or address on the document that is provided is not the same
21 as the name and address shown on the poll list, the inspectors shall proceed as
22 provided under s. 6.97 (2). The inspectors shall then deposit the ballot into the proper
23 ballot box and enter the absent elector's name or voting number after his or her name
24 on the poll list in the same manner as if the elector had been present and voted in
25 person.

1 **SECTION 17.** 6.97 (3) (b) of the statutes is renumbered 6.97 (3) (b) 1. and
2 amended to read:

3 **6.97 (3) (b) 1.** Whenever the municipal clerk or executive director of the
4 municipal board of election commissioners is informed by the inspectors that a ballot
5 has been cast under this section, the clerk or executive director shall promptly
6 provide written notice to the board of canvassers of each municipality, special
7 purpose district, and county that is responsible for canvassing the election of the
8 number of ballots cast under this section in each ward or election district. The
9 municipal clerk or executive director then shall determine whether each individual
10 voting under this section is qualified to vote in the ward or election district where the
11 individual's ballot is cast. If the elector is required to provide proof of identification
12 under s. 6.79 (2) or 6.86 (1) (ar) and fails to do so, the elector bears the burden of
13 correcting the omission by providing the proof of identification at the polling place
14 before the closing hour ~~or~~, by providing the proof of identification at the office of the
15 municipal clerk or board of election commissioners serving his or her residence no
16 later than 4 p.m. on the Friday after the election~~., or by filing an affidavit under subd.~~
17 2.

18 3. The municipal clerk or executive director shall make a record of the
19 procedure used to determine the validity of each ballot cast under this section. If,
20 prior to 4 p.m. on the Friday after the election, the municipal clerk or executive
21 director determines that the individual is qualified to vote in the ward or election
22 district where the individual's ballot is cast, the municipal clerk or executive director
23 shall notify the board of canvassers for each municipality, special purpose district
24 and county that is responsible for canvassing the election of that fact.

25 **SECTION 18.** 6.97 (3) (b) 2. of the statutes is created to read:

1 6.97 (3) (b) 2. An elector who has voted by provisional ballot and who is indigent
2 and cannot obtain proof of identification without payment of a fee or an elector who
3 has a religious objection to being photographed may appear at the office of the
4 municipal clerk or board of election commissioners prior to 4 p.m. on the Friday after
5 the election and execute an affidavit affirming that the elector appeared at the
6 polling place serving his or her residence on election day and cast a provisional ballot,
7 and affirming one of the following: a) that the elector is indigent and cannot obtain
8 proof of identification without payment of a fee; b) that the elector has a religious
9 objection to being photographed; or c) that the elector cannot obtain the
10 documentation required to obtain proof of identification. Upon executing the
11 affidavit and depositing it with the municipal clerk or board of election
12 commissioners, the provisional ballot cast by the elector is valid if the elector is
13 otherwise qualified.

14 **SECTION 19.** 7.30 (2) (a) and (b) of the statutes are amended to read:

15 7.30 (2) (a) Only election officials appointed under this section or s. 6.875 may
16 conduct an election. Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph and in ss. 7.15
17 (1) (k) and 7.52 (1) (b), each election official shall be a qualified elector of ~~the ward~~
18 ~~or wards, or the election district, for a county in which the polling place is established.~~
19 ~~A special registration deputy who is appointed under s. 6.55 (6) or an election official~~
20 ~~who is appointed under this section to fill a vacancy under par. (b) need not be a~~
21 ~~resident of the ward or wards, or the election district, but shall be a resident of the~~
22 ~~municipality, except that if where the official serves is located, and each chief~~
23 ~~inspector shall be a qualified elector of the municipality in which the chief inspector~~
24 ~~serves. If no qualified candidate for chief inspector is available or if the chief~~
25 ~~inspector is appointed to fill a vacancy under par. (b), the person so appointed need~~

1 not be a qualified elector of the municipality. If a municipal clerk or deputy clerk
2 serves as a registration deputy or is appointed to fill a vacancy under par. (b), the
3 clerk or deputy clerk need not be a resident of the ~~municipality~~ county, but shall be
4 a resident of the state. No more than 2 individuals holding the office of clerk or
5 deputy clerk may serve without regard to ~~municipal~~ county residency in any
6 municipality at any election. Special registration deputies who are appointed under
7 s. 6.55 (6) may be appointed to serve more than one polling place. All officials
8 appointed under this section shall be able to read and write the English language,
9 be capable, and be of good understanding, and may not be a candidate for any office
10 to be voted for at an election at which they serve. In 1st class cities, they may hold
11 no public office other than notary public. Except as authorized under subs. (1) (b) and
12 (4) (c), all inspectors shall be affiliated with one of the 2 recognized political parties
13 which received the largest number of votes for president, or governor in
14 nonpresidential general election years, in the ward or combination of wards served
15 by the polling place at the last election. Excluding the inspector who may be
16 appointed under sub. (1) (b), the party which received the largest number of votes is
17 entitled to one more inspector than the party receiving the next largest number of
18 votes at each polling place. ~~Election officials appointed under this section may serve~~
19 ~~the electors of more than one ward where wards are combined under s. 5.15 (6) (b).~~
20 ~~If a municipality is not divided into wards, the ward requirements in this paragraph~~
21 ~~apply to the municipality at large.~~

22 (b) When a vacancy occurs in an office under this section, the vacancy shall be
23 filled by appointment of the municipal clerk. Unless the vacancy occurs in the
24 position of an inspector appointed under sub. (1) (b), the vacancy shall be filled from
25 the remaining names on the lists submitted under sub. (4) or from additional names

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1 submitted by the chairperson of the county party committee of the appropriate party
2 under sub. (4) whenever names are submitted under sub. (4) (d). If the vacancy is
3 due to candidacy, sickness or any other temporary cause, the appointment shall be
4 a temporary appointment and effective only for the election at which the temporary
5 vacancy occurs. The same qualifications that applied to original appointees shall be
6 required of persons who fill vacancies except that ~~a vacancy may be filled in cases of~~
7 ~~emergency or because of time limitations by a person who resides in another~~
8 ~~aldermanic district or ward within the municipality, and~~ if a municipal clerk or
9 deputy clerk fills the vacancy, the clerk or deputy, but not more than a total of 2
10 individuals in any municipality, may serve without regard to the clerk's or deputy's
11 ~~municipality~~ county of residence, if the clerk or deputy meets the other
12 qualifications.

13 SECTION 20. 7.51 (5) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

14 7.51 (5) (b) The municipal clerk shall deliver all ballots, statements, tally
15 sheets, lists, ~~and envelopes, and affidavits~~ relating to a school district election to the
16 school district clerk, excluding any absentee ballots that are received after the
17 closing hour on election night and any provisional ballots, by 4 p.m. on the day
18 following each such election and shall deliver to the school district clerk any amended
19 statements, tally sheets, affidavits, and lists for additional provisional and absentee
20 ballots canvassed under s. 6.97 (4) or 7.515 (6) (b) no later than 4 p.m. on the Monday
21 after the election. The municipal clerk shall deliver to the county clerk the ballots,
22 statements, tally sheets, lists, ~~and envelopes, and affidavits~~ for his or her
23 municipality relating to any county, technical college district, state, or national
24 election no later than 4 p.m. on the day following each such election or, in
25 municipalities where absentee ballots are canvassed under s. 7.52, by 4 p.m. on the

1 2nd day following each such election, and shall deliver to the county clerk any
2 additional provisional and absentee ballots canvassed under s. 6.97 (4) or 7.515 (6)
3 (b) together with amended statements, tally sheets, lists, ~~and envelopes, and~~
4 affidavits no later than 4 p.m. on the Monday after the election. The person
5 delivering the returns shall be paid out of the municipal treasury. Each clerk shall
6 retain ballots, statements, tally sheets, or envelopes received by the clerk until
7 destruction is authorized under s. 7.23 (1).

8 **SECTION 21.** 9.01 (1) (ag) 1m. of the statutes is amended to read:

9 9.01 (1) (ag) 1m. If the difference between the votes cast for the leading
10 candidate and those cast for the petitioner or the difference between the affirmative
11 and negative votes cast upon any referendum question is at least 10 if 1,000 or less
12 fewer votes are cast or is more than ~~0.5%~~ 0.5 percent but not more than ~~2%~~ 2 percent
13 if more than 1,000 votes are cast following canvassing of all valid provisional and
14 absentee ballots, the petitioner shall pay a fee of ~~\$5~~ \$25 for each ward for which the
15 petition requests a ballot recount, or ~~\$5~~ \$25 for each municipality for which the
16 petition requests a recount where no wards exist.

17 **SECTION 22.** 9.10 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 9.10 (2) (b) A recall petition for a city, village, town, town sanitary district, or
19 school district ~~office officer~~ shall contain a statement ~~of a reason for the recall which~~
20 ~~is related to the official responsibilities of~~ indicating that the official for whom
21 removal is sought has been charged with committing a crime, as defined under s.
22 939.12, violating s. 19.59 (1), or violating a local ordinance establishing a local code
23 of ethics, as provided under s. 19.59 (1m).

24 **SECTION 23.** 9.10 (2) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

Insert
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1 9.10 (2) (d) No petition may be offered for filing for the recall of an officer unless
2 the petitioner first files a registration statement under s. 11.05 (1) or (2) with the
3 filing officer with whom the petition is filed. The petitioner shall append to the
4 registration a statement indicating his or her intent to circulate a recall petition, the
5 name of the officer for whom recall is sought and, in the case of a petition for the recall
6 of a city, village, town, town sanitary district, or school district officer, a statement
7 of a reason for the recall ~~which is related to the official responsibilities of~~ indicating
8 that the official for whom removal is sought has been charged with committing a
9 crime, as defined under s. 939.12, violating s. 19.59 (1), or violating a local ordinance
10 establishing a local code of ethics, as provided under s. 19.59 (1m), and a copy of the
11 criminal or civil complaint alleging the crime or violation. No petitioner may
12 circulate a petition for the recall of an officer prior to completing registration. The
13 last date that a petition for the recall of an officer may be offered for filing is 5 p.m.
14 on the 60th day commencing after registration. After the recall petition has been
15 offered for filing, no name may be added or removed. No signature may be counted
16 unless the date of the signature is within the period provided in this paragraph.

17 **SECTION 24.** 11.01 (11g) and (11r) of the statutes are created to read:

18 11.01 (11g) “Independent disbursement” means a disbursement to make a
19 communication that expressly advocates the election or defeat of a clearly identified
20 candidate, that is made without cooperation or consultation with a candidate, or any
21 authorized committee or agent of a candidate, and that is not made in concert with,
22 or at the request or suggestion of, any candidate, or any authorized committee or
23 agent of a candidate.

1 **(11r)** “Independent disbursement committee” means a committee that makes
2 no disbursements other than independent disbursements and disbursements made
3 for the administrative support of the committee.

4 **SECTION 25.** 11.01 (16) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 **11.01 (16)** (intro.) An act is for “political purposes” when it is done for the
6 purpose of influencing the election or nomination for election of any individual to
7 state or local office, for the purpose of influencing the recall from or retention in office
8 of an individual holding a state or local office, for the purpose of payment of expenses
9 incurred as a result of a recount at an election, or for the purpose of influencing a
10 particular vote at a referendum, except as provided in par. (b). In the case of a
11 candidate, or a committee or group which is organized primarily for the purpose of
12 influencing the election or nomination for election of any individual to state or local
13 office, for the purpose of influencing the recall from or retention in office of an
14 individual holding a state or local office, or for the purpose of influencing a particular
15 vote at a referendum, all administrative and overhead expenses for the maintenance
16 of an office or staff which are used principally for any such purpose are deemed to
17 be for a political purpose.

18 **SECTION 26.** 11.01 (16) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 **11.01 (16)** (a) (intro.) Acts which are for “political purposes” include ~~but are not~~
20 ~~limited to:~~

21 **SECTION 27.** 11.01 (16) (a) 1. of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

22 **11.01 (16)** (a) 1. The making of a communication that contains one or more
23 terms such as the following or their functional equivalents with reference to a clearly
24 identified candidate that expressly advocates the election or defeat of that candidate
25 and that unambiguously relates to the campaign of that candidate:

- 1 a. "Vote for."
2 b. "Elect."
3 c. "Support."
4 d. "Cast your ballot for."
5 e. "Smith for Assembly."
6 f. "Vote against."
7 g. "Defeat."
8 h. "Reject."

9 **SECTION 28.** 11.01 (16) (b) of the statutes renumbered 11.01 (16) (b) (intro.) and
10 is amended to read:

11 11.01 (16) (b) (intro.) A "political purpose" does not include **expenditures:**

12 2. An expenditure made for the purpose of supporting or defending a person
13 who is being investigated for, charged with or convicted of a criminal violation of state
14 or federal law, or an agent or dependent of such a person.

15 **SECTION 29.** 11.01 (16) (b) 1. of the statutes is created to read:

16 11.01 (16) (b) 1. A communication made by an individual other than a
17 candidate, or by an organization that receives one or more contributions or other
18 income for purposes not specified in this subsection, that does not expressly advocate
19 the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate or the adoption or rejection of
20 a question at a referendum.

21 **SECTION 30.** 11.05 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

22 11.05 (1) COMMITTEES AND GROUPS. Except as provided in s. 9.10 (2) (d), every
23 committee other than a personal campaign committee which makes or accepts
24 contributions, incurs obligations, or makes disbursements in a calendar year in an
25 aggregate amount in excess of ~~\$25~~ \$1,000, and every political group subject to

1 registration under s. 11.23 shall file a statement with the appropriate filing officer
2 giving the information required by sub. (3). In the case of any committee other than
3 a personal campaign committee, the statement shall be filed by the treasurer. A
4 personal campaign committee shall register under sub. (2g) or (2r).

5 **SECTION 31.** 11.05 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

6 11.05 (2) INDIVIDUALS. Except as provided in s. 9.10 (2) (d), every individual,
7 other than a candidate or agent of a candidate, who accepts contributions, incurs
8 obligations, or makes disbursements in a calendar year in an aggregate amount in
9 excess of ~~\$25~~ \$1,000 to support or oppose the election or nomination of a candidate
10 at an election and every individual subject to registration under s. 11.23 shall file a
11 statement with the appropriate filing officer giving the information required by sub.
12 (3). An individual who guarantees a loan on which an individual, committee or group
13 subject to a registration requirement defaults is not subject to registration under this
14 subsection solely as a result of such default.

15 **SECTION 32.** 11.05 (2r) of the statutes is amended to read:

16 11.05 (2r) GENERAL REPORTING EXEMPTIONS. Any committee, group, or
17 individual, other than a committee or individual required to file an oath under s.
18 11.06 (7), who or which does not anticipate accepting contributions, making
19 disbursements or incurring obligations in an aggregate amount in excess of ~~\$1,000~~
20 \$2,000 in a calendar year and does not anticipate accepting any contribution or
21 contributions from a single source, other than contributions made by a candidate to
22 his or her own campaign, exceeding ~~\$100~~ \$200 in that year, or exceeding ~~\$750~~ \$1,500
23 in that year for a group or individual subject to registration under s. 11.23, may
24 indicate on its registration statement that the committee, group, or individual will
25 not accept contributions, incur obligations or make disbursements in the aggregate

1 in excess of ~~\$1,000~~ \$2,000 in any calendar year and will not accept any contribution
2 or contributions from a single source, other than contributions made by a candidate
3 to his or her own campaign, exceeding ~~\$100~~ \$200 in that year, or exceeding ~~\$750~~
4 \$1,500 in that year for a group or individual subject to registration under s. 11.23.
5 Any registrant making such an indication is not subject to any filing requirement if
6 the statement is true. The registrant need not file a termination report. A registrant
7 not making such an indication on a registration statement is subject to a filing
8 requirement. The indication may be revoked and the registrant is then subject to a
9 filing requirement as of the date of revocation, or the date that aggregate
10 contributions, disbursements or obligations for the calendar year exceed ~~\$1,000~~
11 \$2,000, or the date on which the registrant accepts any contribution or contributions
12 exceeding ~~\$100~~ \$200 from a single source, or exceeding ~~\$750~~ \$1,500 from a single
13 source for a group or individual subject to registration under s. 11.23, other than
14 contributions made by a candidate to his or her own campaign, during that year,
15 whichever is earlier. If the revocation is not timely, the registrant violates s. 11.27
16 (1).

17 **SECTION 33.** 11.05 (3) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 11.05 (3) (c) In the case of a committee, a statement as to whether the
19 committee is a personal campaign committee, a political party committee, a
20 legislative campaign committee, a support committee or a special interest
21 committee, and a statement as to whether the committee is a sponsored entity under
22 s. 11.38 (1) (a) 4. or an independent disbursement committee.

23 **SECTION 34.** 11.05 (8) of the statutes is renumbered 11.05 (8) (intro.) and
24 amended to read:

1 11.05 (8) CERTAIN INTRA-REGISTRANT TRANSFERS EXEMPT. (intro.) If an
2 organization ~~which that~~ is not organized exclusively for political purposes makes a
3 contribution from its own property or funds to a committee or group, affiliated with
4 the organization, ~~which is~~ and organized exclusively for political purposes, and ~~the~~
5 all of the following apply, then no registration requirement applies to the
6 contributing organization:

7 (a) The contributing organization receives no contribution from a single source
8 in excess of \$20 \$100 in the aggregate during any calendar year, and it.

9 (b) The contributing organization makes no contributions or disbursements
10 and incurs no obligations other than to make the transactions specified in this
11 subsection, then no registration requirement applies to the contributing
12 organization.

13 **SECTION 35.** 11.05 (11g) of the statutes is created to read:

14 11.05 (11g) CORPORATIONS, ASSOCIATIONS, AND OTHER ENTITIES. If a corporation,
15 association, or other entity makes no contributions or disbursements other than to
16 or on behalf of one or more independent disbursement committees and receives no
17 contributions or other income for the express purpose of making independent
18 disbursements, the corporation, association, or other entity is not subject to a
19 registration requirement under this section.

20 **SECTION 36.** 11.05 (12) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

21 11.05 (12) (b) Except as authorized under sub. (13), a committee, group or
22 individual that becomes subject to a registration requirement under sub. (1) or (2),
23 other than a candidate or agent of a candidate, shall comply with sub. (1) or (2) no
24 later than the 5th business day commencing after receipt of the first contribution by
25 the committee, group or individual exceeding the amount specified under sub. (1) or

1 (2) or s. 11.23 (1), and before making any disbursement exceeding that amount. No
2 committee or individual supporting or opposing the election or nomination of a
3 candidate at an election, other than a candidate or agent of a candidate, may accept
4 any contribution or contributions exceeding ~~\$25~~ \$1,000, and no group or individual
5 subject to registration under s. 11.23 may accept any contribution or contributions
6 exceeding ~~\$750~~ \$1,500, in the aggregate during a calendar year at any time when the
7 committee, group or individual is not registered under this section except within the
8 initial 5-day period authorized by this paragraph.

9 **SECTION 37.** 11.06 (1) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

10 11.06 (1) CONTENTS OF REPORT. (intro.) Except as provided in subs. (1g), (2), (3)
11 and (3m) and ss. 11.05 (2r) and 11.19 (2), each registrant under s. 11.05 shall make
12 full reports, upon a form prescribed by the board and signed by the appropriate
13 individual under sub. (5), of all contributions received, contributions or
14 disbursements made, and obligations incurred. Each report shall contain the
15 following information, covering the period since the last date covered on the previous
16 report, unless otherwise provided:

17 **SECTION 38.** 11.06 (1) (j) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 11.06 (1) (j) In the case of a committee or individual filing an oath under sub.
19 (7), a separate schedule showing for each independent disbursement ~~which is made~~
20 ~~independently of a candidate~~, other than a contribution made to that candidate, the
21 name of the candidate or candidates on whose behalf or in opposition to whom the
22 disbursement is made, indicating whether the purpose is support or opposition.

23 **SECTION 39.** 11.06 (1g) of the statutes is created to read:

24 11.06 (1g) SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS. A corporation, association, or other
25 entity sponsoring an individual or organization under s. 11.38 (1) (a) 4. need only

1 include in its reports under sub. (1) those contributions received by the corporation,
2 association, or other entity for the express purpose of making independent
3 disbursements, those disbursements made from those contributions or other income,
4 and those loans or other obligations that are incurred for the express purpose of
5 making independent disbursements.

6 **SECTION 40.** 11.09 of the statutes is repealed.

7 **SECTION 41.** 11.12 (1) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

8 11.12 (1) (d) Paragraph (a) does not apply to disbursements and obligations
9 which are exempted from reporting under s. 11.06 (1g) or (2).

10 **SECTION 42.** 11.12 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

11 11.12 (3) All contributions, disbursements and incurred obligations exceeding
12 \$10 \$20 shall be recorded by the campaign or committee treasurer or the individual
13 under s. 11.06 (7). He or she shall maintain such records in an organized and legible
14 manner, for not less than 3 years after the date of an election in which the registrant
15 participates. If a report is submitted under s. 11.19 (1), the records may be
16 transferred to a continuing committee or to the appropriate filing officer for
17 retention. Records shall include the information required under s. 11.06 (1).

18 **SECTION 43.** 11.12 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 11.12 (4) Each registrant shall report contributions, disbursements and
20 incurred obligations in accordance with s. 11.20. Except as permitted under s. 11.06
21 (1g), (2), (3) and (3m), each report shall contain the information which is required
22 under s. 11.06 (1).

23 **SECTION 44.** 11.16 (1) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

24 11.16 (1) (d) This subsection does not apply to disbursements and obligations
25 which are exempted from reporting under s. 11.06 (1g) or (2).

1 **SECTION 45.** 11.19 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 11.19 (2) Notwithstanding sub. (1), any registrant who or which determines
3 that obligations will no longer be incurred, contributions will no longer be made or
4 received or disbursements made during a calendar year in an aggregate amount of
5 more than ~~\$1,000~~ \$2,000 may file a suspension report with the appropriate filing
6 officer. The report shall be filed and certified as were previous reports and shall
7 contain the information required under s. 11.06 (1). Upon receipt of a properly
8 executed report, the registrant shall be granted a suspension of the filing
9 requirement under s. 11.20 (9) by the appropriate filing officer. Such suspension is
10 effective only for the calendar year in which it is granted, unless the registrant alters
11 its status before the end of such year or files a termination report under sub. (1).

12 **SECTION 46.** 11.20 (4) of the statutes is renumbered 11.20 (4) (a) (intro.) and
13 amended to read:

14 11.20 (4) (a) (intro.) ~~Continuing reports under s. 11.06 (1) by committees~~
15 Committees or individuals supporting or opposing candidates for office, including
16 committees of a political party, and ~~by individuals, groups, or corporations~~
17 supporting or opposing a referendum shall ~~be received by~~ submit continuing reports
18 required under s. 11.06 (1) to the appropriate filing officer no earlier than January
19 ~~1 and no later than January 31; and no earlier than July 1 and no later than July 20.~~
20 Individuals, as follows:

21 **(b) Individuals,** committees, groups, and corporations to which s. 11.055 (1)
22 applies shall pay the fee imposed under that subsection with their continuing reports
23 filed in January of each year.

24 **SECTION 47.** 11.20 (4) (a) 1. of the statutes is created to read:

1 11.20 (4) (a) 1. In an election year, monthly on the 7th day preceding the last
2 day of the month.

3 **SECTION 48.** 11.20 (4) (a) 2. of the statutes is created to read:

4 11.20 (4) (a) 2. In a nonelection year, quarterly on January 24, April 23, July
5 24, and October 24.

6 **SECTION 49.** 11.23 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 11.23 (1) Any group or individual may promote or oppose a particular vote at
8 any referendum in this state. Except as authorized in s. 11.05 (12) (b) and (13), before
9 a group makes or accepts contributions, makes disbursements, or incurs obligations
10 in excess of ~~\$750~~ \$1,500 in the aggregate in a calendar year for such purposes, and
11 before an individual accepts contributions, makes disbursements, or incurs
12 obligations in excess of ~~\$750~~ \$1,500 in the aggregate in a calendar year for such
13 purposes, the group or individual shall file a registration statement under s. 11.05
14 (1), (2) or (2r). In the case of a group the name and mailing address of each of its
15 officers shall be given in the statement. Every group and every individual under this
16 section shall designate a campaign depository account under s. 11.14. Every group
17 shall appoint a treasurer, who may delegate authority but is jointly responsible for
18 the actions of his or her authorized designee for purposes of civil liability under this
19 chapter. The appropriate filing officer shall be notified by a group of any change in
20 its treasurer within 10 days of the change under s. 11.05 (5). The treasurer of a group
21 shall certify the correctness of each statement or report submitted by it under this
22 chapter.

23 **SECTION 50.** 11.23 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

24 11.23 (3) All contributions, disbursements and incurred obligations exceeding
25 \$10 ~~\$20~~ shall be recorded by the group treasurer or the individual. He or she shall

Went
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1 maintain such records in an organized and legible manner, for not less than 3 years
2 after the date of a referendum in which the group or individual participates. If a
3 report is submitted under s. 11.19 (1), the records may be transferred to a continuing
4 group or to the appropriate filing officer for retention. Records shall include the
5 information required under s. 11.06 (1).

6 SECTION 51. 11.25 (4) of the statutes is created to read:

7 11.25 (4) No independent disbursement committee that accepts any
8 contribution from an entity specified in s. 11.38 (1) (a) 1. may make any contribution
9 that the entity is prohibited from making under s. 11.38 (1) (a) 1.

10 SECTION 52. 11.26 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

11 11.26 (1) (a) Candidates for governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state,
12 state treasurer, attorney general, state superintendent, or justice, ~~\$10,000~~ \$20,000.

13 SECTION 53. 11.26 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

14 11.26 (1) (b) Candidates for state senator, ~~\$1,000~~ \$2,000.

15 SECTION 54. 11.26 (1) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

16 11.26 (1) (c) Candidates for representative to the assembly, ~~\$500~~ \$1,000.

17 SECTION 55. 11.26 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 11.26 (2) (a) Candidates for governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state,
19 state treasurer, attorney general, state superintendent, or justice, 4 percent of the
20 value of the disbursement level specified in the schedule under s. 11.31 (1), subject
21 to s. 11.31 (2m).

22 SECTION 56. 11.26 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

23 11.26 (2) (b) Candidates for state senator, ~~\$1,000~~ \$2,000.

24 SECTION 57. 11.26 (2) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

25 11.26 (2) (c) Candidates for representative to the assembly, ~~\$500~~ \$1,000.

Insert
34-16

Insert 34-25

1 **SECTION 58.** 11.26 (4) of the statutes is repealed.

2 **SECTION 59.** 11.26 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

3 11.26 (5) The contribution limits provided in ~~subs. sub. (1) and (4)~~ do not apply
4 to a candidate who makes any contribution or contributions to his or her own
5 campaign for office from the candidate's personal funds or property or the personal
6 funds or property which are owned jointly or as marital property with the candidate's
7 spouse, with respect to any contribution or contributions made to that candidate's
8 campaign only. A candidate's personal contributions shall be deposited in his or her
9 campaign depository account and reported in the normal manner.

10 **SECTION 60.** 11.26 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:

11 11.26 (6) When a candidate adopts a preexisting support committee as his or
12 her personal campaign committee, the support committee is deemed to have been the
13 same committee as the candidate's personal campaign committee for purposes of the
14 application of subs. (1), and (2) ~~and (9)~~. The limitations prescribed in ~~subs. sub. (2)~~
15 ~~and (9)~~ do not apply to the transfer of contributions which is made at the time of such
16 adoption, but do apply to the contributions which have been made by any other
17 committee to the support committee at the time of adoption.

18 **SECTION 61.** 11.26 (8) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 11.26 (8) (a) No political party as defined in s. 5.02 (13) may receive more than
20 a total of ~~\$150,000~~ \$300,000 in value of its contributions in any biennium from all
21 other committees, excluding contributions from legislative campaign committees
22 and transfers between party committees of the party. In this paragraph, a biennium
23 commences with January 1 of each odd-numbered year and ends with December 31
24 of each even-numbered year.

25 **SECTION 62.** 11.26 (8) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

1 11.26 (8) (b) No such political party may receive more than a total of \$6,000
2 \$12,000 in value of its contributions in any calendar year from any specific committee
3 or its subunits or affiliates, excluding legislative campaign and political party
4 committees.

5 **SECTION 63.** 11.26 (8) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

6 11.26 (8) (c) No committee, other than a political party or legislative campaign
7 committee, may make any contribution or contributions, directly or indirectly, to a
8 political party under s. 5.02 (13) in a calendar year exceeding a total value of \$6,000
9 \$12,000.

10 **SECTION 64.** 11.26 (9) of the statutes is repealed.

11 **SECTION 65.** 11.26 (17) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

12 11.26 (17) (a) For purposes of application of the limitations imposed in subs.
13 (1), and (2), ~~and (9)~~, the "campaign" of a candidate begins and ends at the times
14 specified in this subsection.

15 **SECTION 66.** 11.26 (18) of the statutes is created to read:

16 11.26 (18) Beginning on July 1, 2015, and every 2 years thereafter, the board
17 shall modify the dollar amounts under subs. (1) (a), (b), and (c), (2) (b) and (c), and
18 (8) to adjust for the change in the consumer price index, all items, U.S. city average,
19 published by the U.S. department of labor for the preceding 2-year period ending on
20 December 31. *rounded to the nearest multiple of \$25,*

21 **SECTION 67.** 11.29 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

22 11.29 (1) ~~Nothing in this chapter restricts any~~ A corporation, cooperative,
23 unincorporated cooperative association, or voluntary association, other than a
24 political party or personal campaign committee ~~from making disbursements, may~~
25 make a disbursement for the purpose of communicating only with its members,

1 shareholders, or subscribers, to the exclusion of all other persons, with respect to
2 ~~endorsements of candidates, positions~~ the endorsement of a candidate, taking a
3 position on a referendum ~~or explanation of, explaining~~ its views or interests, or
4 providing information about how to make a contribution to a candidate endorsed by
5 the corporation, cooperative, or association without reporting such activity. No such
6 corporation, cooperative, or association may solicit contributions from persons who
7 are not members, shareholders, or subscribers to be used for such ~~purposes~~ activity.

8 **SECTION 68.** 11.31 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 11.31 (1) (a) Candidates for governor, \$1,078,200 \$2,156,400.

10 **SECTION 69.** 11.31 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

11 11.31 (1) (b) Candidates for lieutenant governor, \$323,475 \$646,950.

12 **SECTION 70.** 11.31 (1) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

13 11.31 (1) (c) Candidates for attorney general, \$539,000 \$1,078,000.

14 **SECTION 71.** 11.31 (1) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

15 11.31 (1) (d) Candidates for secretary of state, state treasurer, state
16 superintendent, or justice, \$215,625 \$431,250.

17 **SECTION 72.** 11.31 (1) (e) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 11.31 (1) (e) Candidates for state senator, \$34,500 \$69,000 total in the primary
19 and election, with disbursements not exceeding \$21,575 \$43,150 for either the
20 primary or the election.

21 **SECTION 73.** 11.31 (1) (f) of the statutes is amended to read:

22 11.31 (1) (f) Candidates for representative to the assembly, \$17,250 \$34,500
23 total in the primary and election, with disbursements not exceeding \$10,775 \$21,550
24 for either the primary or the election.

25 **SECTION 74.** 11.31 (2m) of the statutes is created to read:

Insert
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rounded to the nearest multiple of \$25,

1 **11.31 (2m) CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ADJUSTMENTS.** Beginning on July 1, 2015, and
2 every 2 years thereafter, the board shall modify the dollar amounts under sub. (1) (a)
3 to (d), (e), and (f) to adjust for the change in the consumer price index, all items, U.S.
4 city average, published by the U.S. department of labor for the preceding 2-year
5 period ending on December 31.

6 **SECTION 75.** 11.33 (2m) of the statutes is created to read:

7 **11.33 (2m)** This section does not apply to the cost of materials or distribution
8 of a communication made by a member of the legislature to an address located within
9 the legislative district represented by that member during the 45-day period
10 following declaration of a state of emergency by the governor under s. 323.10
11 affecting any county in which the district is located if the communication relates
12 solely to the subject of the emergency.

13 **SECTION 76.** 11.38 (title) and (1) (a) 1. of the statutes are amended to read:

14 **11.38 (title) Contributions and disbursements by corporations and**
15 **cooperatives, certain associations, and other entities.** (1) (a) 1. No foreign or
16 domestic corporation, or association organized under ch. 185 or 193, may make any
17 contribution or disbursement, directly or indirectly, ~~either independently or through~~
18 ~~any political party, committee, group, candidate or individual for any purpose other~~
19 ~~than to promote or defeat a referendum~~ except to an independent disbursement
20 committee or a sponsored individual or committee under subd. 4.

21 **SECTION 77.** 11.38 (1) (a) 3. of the statutes is repealed.

22 **SECTION 78.** 11.38 (1) (a) 4. of the statutes is created to read:

23 **11.38 (1) (a) 4.** Any foreign or domestic corporation, association organized
24 under ch. 185 or 193, or other entity that is not primarily organized for political
25 purposes may sponsor a separate individual or committee that is not organized

1 exclusively for political purposes and may make contributions and solicit
2 contributions from other individuals or organizations to the sponsored entity to be
3 utilized by the sponsored entity for the purpose of making independent
4 disbursements in support of or in opposition to one or more candidates for state or
5 local office. The individual or committee shall appoint a treasurer and register as
6 a political committee under s. 11.05. A parent corporation, association, or other
7 entity engaging solely in this activity is not subject to registration under s. 11.05, but
8 shall register and file special reports on forms prescribed by the board disclosing its
9 administrative and solicitation expenses on behalf of the sponsored entity and any
10 contributions made by the corporation or association to the sponsored entity. The
11 corporation or association shall file an oath making the affirmation required under
12 s. 11.06 (7), shall file the reports with the filing officer for the sponsored entity
13 specified in s. 11.02 in the manner in which reports of contributions and other
14 reportable information are filed under ss. 11.12 (6) and 11.20 (4) and (8) and shall
15 include an attribution on all communications in the same manner and to the same
16 extent that attributions on political communications are required under s. 11.30 (2).

17 **SECTION 79.** 11.38 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 11.38 (1) (b) No political party, committee, group, candidate or individual may
19 accept any contribution ~~or disbursement~~ made to or on behalf of such individual or
20 entity which is prohibited by this section.

21 **SECTION 80.** 11.38 (2) (c) of the statutes is repealed.

22 **SECTION 81.** 13.625 (1) (c) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

23 13.625 (1) (c) (intro.) Except as permitted in this subsection, make a campaign
24 contribution, as defined in s. 11.01 (6), to a partisan elective state official for the
25 purpose of promoting the official's election to any national, state, or local office; or

Insert
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SECTION 81

1 to a candidate for a partisan elective state office to be filled at the general election
 2 or a special election; or to the official's or candidate's personal campaign committee.
 3 A lobbyist may make a campaign contribution to a partisan elective state official or
 4 candidate for partisan elective state office or ~~his or her~~ to the personal campaign
 5 committee ~~may be made of the official or candidate~~ in the year of a the official's or
 6 candidate's election between ~~June 1~~ April 15 and the day of the general election,
 except that:

Insert 7
 40-8
 A
 B
 C

SECTION 82. Initial applicability.

8 (1) The treatment of section 5.15 (6) (b) of the statutes first applies with respect
 9 to reporting of election returns for elections held on the effective date of this
 10 subsection.
 11

12 (2) The treatment of section 5.90 (1) and 9.01 (1) (ag) 1m. of the statutes first
 13 applies with respect to petitions for recounts at elections held after the effective date
 14 of this subsection.

15 (3) The treatment of section 11.01 (16) (intro.) and (b) 1. of the statutes first
 16 applies with respect to communications made on the effective date of this subsection.

17 (4) The treatment of section 6.86 (1) (b) and (bb) of the statutes first applies to
 18 elections held no earlier than 60 days after the effective date of this subsection.

19 (5) The treatment of sections 6.79 (2) (a), 6.82 (1) (a) (as it relates to the
 20 exemption of certain electors from the requirement to present proof of identification
 21 when voting in an election), and 7.51 (5) (b) of the statutes, the renumbering and
 22 amendment of section 6.97 (3) (b) of the statutes, and the creation of section 6.97 (3)
 23 (b) 2. of the statutes first apply with respect to proof of identification required for
 24 elections held on the 60th day beginning after the effective date of this subsection.

(END)

Insert 40-25A