
Wisconsin Legislative Council

ACT MEMO



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April 24, 2020

2019 Wisconsin Act 164
[2019 Senate Bill 108]

**Vacancies in Elected City
and Village Offices**

2019 WISCONSIN ACT 164

Act 164 makes changes related to filling vacancies in city and village offices to expressly allow certain offices to remain vacant, and eliminates timelines for holding special elections to fill particular vacancies.

The act provides that for vacancies in cities other than Milwaukee, the offices of mayor or alderperson may: (a) be filled by appointment by the common council for the rest of the unexpired term; (b) be filled by appointment until a special election is held, as ordered by the common council; or (c) remain vacant until an election is held. The act similarly provides that vacancies in elective village offices may be filled: (a) by appointment by the village board for the residue of the unexpired term; (b) be filled by appointment until a special election is held, as ordered by the village board; or (c) remain vacant until an election is held.

Finally, the act repeals prior law specifying particular timelines for holding a special election for city or village office and for holding a special election for municipal judge.

Effective date: March 5, 2020

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