



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 54

WHEREAS, the quality of justice in the State of Wisconsin is best maintained through the election and appointment of qualified persons to the judiciary; and

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the Governor under the Constitution and laws of the State of Wisconsin to appoint persons to fill vacancies in the courts until a successor is elected to such office as provided by law; and

WHEREAS, the effective administration of justice is dependent upon a judiciary comprised of highly qualified, conscientious and public-minded lawyers; and

WHEREAS, persons appointed to serve in judicial office should be selected through a process aimed at ensuring that only qualified and able persons receive judicial appointments; and

WHEREAS, a significant number of vacancies will occur this year due to the election of incumbent judges to the newly-created Court of Appeals; and

WHEREAS, a non-partisan Judicial Appointment Advisory Commission would be of assistance to the Governor in the judicial selection process.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARTIN J. SCHREIBER, Acting Governor of the State of Wisconsin, pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 14.019 of the Wisconsin Statutes, do hereby:

1. Establish a Judicial Appointment Advisory Commission for the State of Wisconsin;

2. Provide that Commission shall consist of nine members as follows:

a. Five of the said nine members shall be non-lawyers appointed by the Governor for one-year terms.

b. Four of the said nine members shall be members of the State Bar of Wisconsin appointed by the Governor for one-year terms.

c. Two of the said four State Bar members shall be appointed by the Governor upon the recommendation of the President of the State Bar of Wisconsin.

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3. Provide that the Governor shall designate from Commission membership a chairperson of the Commission;

4. Provide that the Commission shall adopt such rules concerning its operating procedures as it deems appropriate;

5. Instruct the Commission to review the qualifications of all those interested in appointment to a judicial vacancy and provide the Governor with a list of all those persons qualified and eligible for each appointment. Before submitting a list of qualified and eligible nominees to fill any judicial vacancy, the Commission shall hold at least one meeting to consider such applications; and

6. Instruct the Secretary of the Department of Administration to provide the Commission with such sums of money that are necessary and proper for the legitimate travel and operating expenses of the Commission as provided by the Joint Committee on Finance under Section 20.505(5)(a) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

This Executive Order shall be in force and effect for a period of one year from the date thereof.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this twelfth day of April in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventy-eight.

Martin J. Schreiber  
MARTIN J. SCHREIBER

By the Acting Governor:

Douglas LaFollette  
DOUGLAS LAFOLLETTE  
Secretary of State

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