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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

EXECUTIVE ORDER #1

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

WHEREAS, a non-partisan Governor's Advisory Council on Judicial Selection would be of assistance to the Governor in the judicial selection process when a vacancy occurs in a judicial position;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ANTHONY S. EARL, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 14.019 of Wisconsin Statutes, do hereby:

1. Establish the Governor's Advisory Council on Judicial Selection for the State of Wisconsin;
2. Provide that for the purpose of making recommendations to the Governor concerning vacancies on the Supreme Court, the Council shall consist of a state-wide panel of five members to be constituted in the following manner: three of the members shall be non-lawyers appointed by the Governor and two of the members shall be lawyers appointed by the Governor upon consultation with the President of the State Bar;
3. Provide that in addition to the state-wide panel, for the purposes of making recommendations to the Governor concerning vacancies on the Court of Appeals, the Council shall consist of an appeals district panel to be constituted in the following manner: one member shall be a non-lawyer appointed by the Governor from the Court of Appeals district in which the vacancy occurs and one member shall be a lawyer from the Court of Appeals district in which the vacancy occurs and appointed by the Governor upon consultation with the President of the State Bar;

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Provide that in addition to the state-wide panel for the purposes of making recommendations to the Governor concerning vacancies on a Circuit Court, the Council shall consist of a circuit panel to be constituted in the following manner: one member shall be a non-lawyer appointed by the Governor from the circuit in which the vacancy occurs and one member shall be a lawyer from the circuit in which the vacancy occurs and appointed by the Governor upon consultation with the Bar Association of the circuit in which the vacancy occurs;

Provide that all members of the Council shall be appointed for a two year term;

Provide that the Council shall use the following minimum standards to evaluate whether proposed nominees are qualified candidates:

- a. that the person is a member in good standing of the State Bar of Wisconsin and a resident of the State of Wisconsin;
- b. that the person has been involved in the legal community for the past five years and has demonstrated excellent legal ability;
- c. that the person is fair, experienced, even-tempered, and free of biases against any class of citizens or any religious or racial groups;
- d. that the person possesses sound mental and physical health;

Provide that the Governor shall designate from the Council membership, a Chairperson of the Council;

Provide that no later than two weeks after notification of a vacancy in a Circuit Court or Court of Appeals, the Governor shall appoint the local panel;

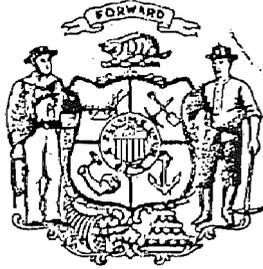
Provide that the Council shall seek out women and members of minority groups qualified to serve in judicial positions;

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

Instruct the Council to solicit applications for each judicial vacancy, to review the qualifications of all those interested in appointment, and to provide the Governor with a list of five people who the Council regards as best qualified for the vacant position no later than six weeks after notification of the vacancy;

Instruct the Council to keep all proceedings...

The State of Wisconsin



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

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 6th day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred eighty-three.


ANTHONY S. EARL

By the Governor:


DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State