



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2011 Assembly Bill 476

Assembly Amendment 1

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2011 Assembly Bill 476 makes various changes to election laws. Many of the provisions in the bill alter election procedure dates and timelines to reflect changes made by 2011 Wisconsin Acts 23 and 75. Specifically, the bill modifies the timeline for county and municipal canvassing procedures to accommodate late-arriving absentee and provisional ballots. The bill also requires municipal clerks to post the number of voters who cast provisional ballots. Lastly, the bill changes the date of annual town meetings and the date on which elected town officers begin to serve a term of office from the 2nd Tuesday in April to the 3rd Tuesday in April.

Assembly Amendment 1 provides that the provisions in the bill relating to the date of annual town meetings take effect on January 1, 2013. The amendment also allows a town board to enact an ordinance that provides that the terms of office of any elective town officers who were elected or appointed to serve for terms that expire on the 2nd Tuesday in April of 2012 or 2013 are extended so as to expire on the 3rd Tuesday in April. Lastly, the amendment changes the timeline for canvassing results in the first election following the incorporation of a village or city from one week to 14 days.

Legislative History

Assembly Amendment 1 was offered by Representative Tauchen. On February 6, 2012, the Assembly Committee on Election and Campaign Reform recommended adoption of the amendment and recommended passage of Assembly Bill 476, as amended, on votes of Ayes, 4; Noes, 2.

JKR:ksm