



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2013 Assembly Bill 493

Assembly Amendment 1

Memo published: November 13, 2013

Contact: Jessica Karls-Ruplinger, Senior Staff Attorney (266-2230)

Assembly Bill 493

Assembly Bill 493 provides an alternative to the requirement that an elector present proof of identification when voting for an elector who considers himself or herself to be indigent and cannot obtain proof of identification without payment of a fee, an elector who has a religious objection to being photographed, or an elector who cannot obtain the documentation required to obtain proof of identification. Such an elector may, as an alternative to presenting proof of identification, swear or affirm in an oath administered by the chief inspector that:

- The elector considers himself or herself to be indigent and cannot obtain proof of identification without payment of a fee.
- The elector has a religious objection to being photographed.
- The elector cannot obtain the documentation required to obtain proof of identification.

An elector who makes an oath or affirmation must also sign a statement in the form prescribed by the Government Accountability Board making the same affirmation.

In addition, the bill provides that a veterans identification card issued by the Veterans Health Administration of the federal Department of Veterans Affairs may be used as proof of identification when voting.

Assembly Amendment 1

Assembly Amendment 1 replaces the verbal and written oaths in the bill with a different procedure. Specifically, the amendment requires an elector claiming an exemption in the bill to first

sign and submit a statement affirming one of the three reasons, described above. The elector must then swear or affirm in an oath administered by the chief inspector that the statement submitted by the elector is correct to the best of his or her knowledge.

Bill History

Assembly Amendment 1 was offered by Representatives Schraa and Born. On November 12, 2013, the Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections recommended adoption of the amendment and passage of Assembly Bill 493, as amended, on votes of Ayes, 6; Noes, 3.

JKR:jal