

1999 ASSEMBLY BILL 363

May 24, 1999 – Introduced by Representatives Ott, Kestell, Freese, Albers, Grothman, Huebsch, M. Lehman, Musser, Spillner, Staskunas, Stone and Ryba, cosponsored by Senator Clausing. Referred to Committee on Campaigns and Elections.

1 AN ACT to amend 7.53 (2) (a) of the statutes; relating to: the composition of

municipal boards of canvassers in certain municipalities.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Currently, the municipal board of canvassers in each municipality utilizing more than one polling place, except in cities having a population of more than 500,000 (Milwaukee), is composed of the municipal clerk and two other qualified electors appointed by the clerk. If the clerk's office is vacant, if the clerk cannot perform his or her duties or if the clerk is a candidate at an election being canvassed, the mayor, president or board chairperson of the municipality designates another qualified elector of the municipality to serve in lieu of the clerk.

This bill provides that the municipal board of canvassers in these municipalities is composed of three qualified electors of the municipality, other than the municipal clerk, who shall be appointed by the clerk.

For further information see the *local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

- **SECTION 1.** 7.53 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:
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7.53 (2) (a) Except as provided in par. (c), the municipal board of canvassers

5 for municipal elections in each municipality utilizing more than one polling place

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shall be composed of the municipal clerk and 2 other 3 qualified electors of the 1 $\mathbf{2}$ municipality, other than the municipal clerk, who shall be appointed by the clerk. 3 The members of the board of canvassers shall serve for 2-year terms commencing on January 1 of each odd-numbered year, except that any member who is appointed to 4 fill a permanent vacancy shall serve for the unexpired term of the original appointee. $\mathbf{5}$ 6 If the municipal clerk's office is vacant, if the clerk cannot perform his or her duties 7 or if the clerk is a candidate at an election being canvassed, the mayor, president or 8 board chairperson of the municipality shall designate another qualified elector of the 9 municipality to serve in lieu of the clerk for that election. If any other member of the board of canvassers is a candidate at the election being canvassed, the clerk shall 10 11 appoint another qualified elector of the municipality to temporarily fill the vacancy. 12**SECTION 2. Effective date.** 13(1) This act takes effect on January 1, 2001.

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(END)