



2001 SENATE BILL 478

February 28, 2002 - Introduced by Senator BURKE, cosponsored by Representatives KRUG, MUSSER, TURNER, JESKEWITZ, MILLER, CARPENTER, J. LEHMAN and BERCEAU. Referred to Committee on Universities, Housing, and Government Operations.

1 **AN ACT** *to create* 66.0501 (5) of the statutes; **relating to:** the eligibility of
2 employees of cities, villages, towns, and counties to be candidates for elective
3 public office.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, no political subdivision (city, village, town, or county), other than a 1st class city (currently only Milwaukee) or a county with a population of 500,000 or more (currently only Milwaukee County), may prohibit a law enforcement officer who is employed by a political subdivision from being a candidate for elective public office, if he or she is otherwise qualified to be a candidate. Also under current law, no law enforcement officer may be required, as a condition of being a candidate for any elective public office, to take a leave of absence during his or her candidacy.

Under this bill, no political subdivision, including a 1st class city and a county with a population of 500,000 or more, may prohibit any other employee of a political subdivision from being a candidate for elective public office, if he or she is otherwise qualified to be a candidate. Also under the bill, no employee of a political subdivision may be required, as a condition of being a candidate for any elective public office, to take a leave of absence during his or her candidacy.

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:

