



2005 ASSEMBLY BILL 888

December 20, 2005 - Introduced by Representatives WOOD, BIES, FREESE, HAHN, HINES, MUSSER, PARISI, SEIDEL, VOS and WASSERMAN, cosponsored by Senators GROTHMAN, A. LASEE, OLSEN and REYNOLDS. Referred to Committee on Campaigns and Elections.

1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 6.28 (1) and 6.33 (1); and *to create* 6.28 (4) of the statutes;
2 **relating to:** voter registration at offices of county clerks and boards of election
3 commissioners.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Currently, an elector may register to vote at the office of the municipal clerk or board of election commissioners, at the office of the register of deeds, and at any other location provided by the board of election commissioners or the common council in cities over 500,000 population (Milwaukee) or by the municipal clerk or municipal governing body in other municipalities. In addition, students and staff may register at any public high school.

This bill permits any elector, in addition, to register to vote at the office of the county clerk or board of election commissioners for the county in which the elector's residence is located.

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:

4 **SECTION 1.** 6.28 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

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1 6.28 (1) REGISTRATION LOCATIONS; DEADLINE. Except as authorized in ss. 6.29,
2 6.55 (2), and 6.86 (3) (a) 2., registration in person for any election shall close at 5 p.m.
3 on the 2nd Wednesday preceding the election. Registrations made by mail under s.
4 6.30 (4) must be delivered to the office of the municipal clerk or postmarked no later
5 than the 2nd Wednesday preceding the election. An application for registration in
6 person or by mail may be accepted for placement on the registration list after the
7 specified deadline, if the municipal clerk determines that the registration list can be
8 revised to incorporate the registration in time for the election. All applications for
9 registration corrections and additions may be made throughout the year at the office
10 of the city board of election commissioners, at the office of the municipal clerk, at the
11 office of the county clerk, at the office of any register of deeds or at other locations
12 provided by the board of election commissioners or the common council in cities over
13 500,000 population or by either or both the municipal clerk, or the common council,
14 village or town board in all other municipalities and may also be made during the
15 school year at any high school by qualified persons under sub. (2) (a). Other
16 registration locations may include but are not limited to fire houses, police stations,
17 public libraries, institutions of higher education, supermarkets, community centers,
18 plants and factories, banks, savings and loan associations and savings banks.
19 Special registration deputies shall be appointed for all locations. An elector who
20 wishes to obtain a confidential listing under s. 6.47 (2) shall register at the office of
21 the municipal clerk of the municipality where the elector resides.

22 **SECTION 2.** 6.28 (4) of the statutes is created to read:

23 6.28 (4) AT OFFICE OF COUNTY CLERK. Any person shall be given an opportunity
24 to register to vote at the office of the county clerk for the county in which the person's
25 residence is located. An applicant may complete the required registration form

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1 under s. 6.33. Unless the county clerk performs registration functions for the
2 municipality where the elector resides under s. 6.33 (5) (b), the clerk shall forward
3 each completed form submitted by an elector to the appropriate municipal clerk, or
4 to the board of election commissioners in cities over 500,000 population, within 5
5 days of receipt. The clerk shall forward the form immediately whenever registration
6 closes within 5 days of receipt.

7 **SECTION 3.** 6.33 (1) of the statutes, as affected by 2003 Wisconsin Act 265, is
8 amended to read:

9 6.33 (1) The municipal clerk shall supply sufficient registration forms as
10 prescribed by the board printed on loose-leaf sheets or cards to obtain from each
11 applicant information as to name; date; residence location; citizenship; date of birth;
12 age; the number of a valid operator's license issued to the elector under ch. 343 or the
13 last 4 digits of the elector's social security account number; whether the applicant
14 has resided within the ward or election district for at least 10 days; whether the
15 applicant has lost his or her right to vote; and whether the applicant is currently
16 registered to vote at any other location. The forms shall also provide a space for the
17 applicant's signature and the ward and aldermanic district, if any, where the elector
18 resides and any other information required to determine the offices and referenda
19 for which the elector is certified to vote. The forms shall also include a space where
20 the clerk may record an indication of whether the form is received by mail and a space
21 where the clerk, for any applicant who possesses a valid voting identification card
22 issued to the person under s. 6.47 (3), may record the identification serial number
23 appearing on the voting identification card. Each register of deeds shall obtain
24 sufficient registration forms at the expense of the unit of government by which he or
25 she is employed for completion by any elector who desires to register to vote at the

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SECTION 3

1 office of the register of deeds under s. 6.28 (3). Each county clerk shall obtain
2 sufficient registration forms for completion by an elector who desires to register to
3 vote at the office of the clerk under s. 6.28 (4).

4 **SECTION 4. Effective date.**

5 (1) This act takes effect on January 1, 2006, or the day after publication,
6 whichever is later.

7 (END)