Wisconsin Uniform Securities Law.

Legislative Council Note, 1969: The advisory committee on securities laws was appointed by the 1967-69 legislative council as an advisory body to the insurance and banking committee. The council directed the advisory committee to conduct a comprehensive review of the existing Wisconsin securities law by comparing it with the laws of other states and the uniform law recommended by the national conference of commission­ers on uniform state laws. This bill, which represents a comprehensive revision and recodifica­tion of the statutes relating to the regulation of securities, constitutes the recommenda­tions of the advisory committee.

The proposed “Wisconsin Uniform Securities Law” makes no basic change in Wisconsin securities regulatory policy. While there are important changes introducing new safeguards for investors and cutting away unnecessary red tape, the principal change is one of simplification and coordination of the law with federal securities regulation and with regulation in other states.

The proposed law is based upon the “Uniform Securities Act” recommended by the commissioners on uniform state laws since the last general revision of the Wisconsin law. Securities regulation is a field in which uniformity is especially desirable because typical new issues of securities must simultaneously meet requirements of many states. The uniform act has been adopted (more or less completely) in over 20 states. While the proposed bill generally follows the uniform act, it departs from this model in retaining important safeguards of the present law. The most important of these is the “fair and equitable” standard for screening of securities.

The proposed law establishes a procedure by which securities registered under the federal securities act may be registered in the state by “coordination”, a synchronized and expeditious procedure.

Wisconsin law concerning registration is to be simplified in another respect. There are to be only 2 modes of registration: “coordination” and “qualification”. The cumbersome provisions of “sale upon notification” and “sale prior to registration” in the present law...