

1983 Senate Bill 11

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1983 Wisconsin Act 442

AN ACT to amend 5.15 (6) (b), 7.51 (5) and 7.60 (5) of the statutes, relating to maintenance of voting statistics in certain cities.

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

SECTION 1. 5.15 (6) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

5.15 (6) (b) No later than 60 days before an election the governing body of any municipality may by resolution combine 2 or more wards for voting purposes to facilitate using a common polling place. ~~Every~~ Except as otherwise authorized under this paragraph, every municipality having a population of 35,000 or more shall maintain separate ballot boxes and ballots or voting machines and separate returns for each ward so combined. In municipalities having a population of less than 35,000, the governing body may provide in the resolution that one or more wards shall use common ballot

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boxes and ballots or voting machines and that ~~separate~~ returns shall ~~not~~ be maintained ~~only for the each group of combined wards at any election, but.~~ In municipalities having a population as shown in the 1980 federal decennial census of at least 87,000 but not more than 150,000, the governing body may provide in a resolution adopted prior to 1992 that not more than 2 wards shall use common ballot boxes and ballots or voting machines and that returns shall be maintained only for each group of combined wards at any election held prior to 1992, but not more than one such resolution may be adopted. Whenever a governing body provides for common ballot boxes and ballots or voting machines, separate ballot boxes and ballots shall be maintained for each separate ballot required under ss. 5.58 to 5.64, and separate voting machines shall be maintained for any electors of one or more of the combined wards who are ineligible to vote for any office or referendum for which other electors in the combined wards may vote. A copy of the resolution shall be filed in the same manner as for changes or adjustments in ward boundaries under sub. (4) (b). ~~The~~ In municipalities having a population of less than 35,000, the resolution shall remain in effect for each election until modified or rescinded, or until a new division is made following the next census.

SECTION 2. 7.51 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

7.51 (5) RETURNS. The inspectors shall make full and accurate return of the votes cast for each candidate and proposition on blanks provided for the purpose. Each tally sheet shall record the returns for each office or referendum by ward, unless combined returns are authorized in accordance with s. 5.15 (6) (b) in which case the tally sheet shall record the returns for each group of combined wards. After recording the votes, the inspectors shall seal one tally sheet statement and registration or poll list for delivery to the county clerk, unless the election relates only to municipal and school district offices or referenda. The inspectors shall also seal one tally sheet statement and registration or poll list for delivery to the municipal clerk. For school district elections in common, union high and unified school districts, the inspectors shall seal one tally sheet statement and registration or poll list for delivery to the school district clerk in lieu of the municipal clerk. The inspectors shall immediately deliver all ballots, statements, lists and envelopes to the municipal clerk or school district clerk, as appropriate. The municipal clerk shall deliver the ballots, statements, lists and envelopes for his or her municipality relating to any county, vocational district, state or national election to the county clerk by 2 p.m. on the day following each such election. The person delivering the returns shall be paid out of the municipal treasury.

SECTION 3. 7.60 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

7.60 (5) REPORTING. Immediately following the canvass the county clerk shall send the elections board, by certified mail with return receipt requested, a certified copy of each statement of the county board of canvassers for president and vice president, state officials, senators and representatives in congress, state legislators, justice, court of appeals judge, circuit judge and metropolitan sewerage commissioners, if the commissioners are elected under s. 66.23 (11) (am). The statement shall record the returns for each office or referendum by ward, unless combined returns are authorized under s. 5.15 (6) (b) in which case the statement shall record the returns for each group of combined wards. Following primaries the county clerk shall enclose on blanks furnished by the elections board the names, party or principle designation, if any, and number of votes received by each candidate recorded in the same manner. The county clerk shall transmit the certified statement to the elections board no later than 10 days after each primary and no later than 14 days after any other election. The board of canvassers shall transmit a certified copy of each statement for any vocational district referendum to the secretary of the district board of vocational, technical and adult education.