2001 ASSEMBLY BILL 41

January 19, 2001 – Introduced by COMMITTEE ON CAMPAIGNS AND ELECTIONS. Referred to Committee on Campaigns and Elections.

AN ACT to repeal 6.78 (1), 6.78 (2) and 6.78 (3); to renumber and amend 6.78 (intro.); and to amend 67.05 (3) (f) and 120.06 (9) (a) of the statutes; relating to: polling hours.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the polls at an election in a first, second or third class city must generally be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. In a village, town or fourth class city the polls must be open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., unless the village, town or city determines to extend the opening hour to not earlier than 7 a.m. In addition, under current law, certain school district elections are not subject to either of these polling hour requirements.

This bill requires the polls at every election to be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. in all municipalities.

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. 6.78 (intro.) of the statutes is renumbered 6.78 (1m) and amended to read:
SECTION 1

6.78 (1m) The polls at 

SECTION 2. 6.78 (1) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 3. 6.78 (2) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 4. 6.78 (3) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 5. 67.05 (3) (f) of the statutes is amended to read:

67.05 (3) (f) If a special purpose district calls a referendum to be held in

SECTION 6. 120.06 (9) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:
120.06 (9) (a) The primary and spring elections for school board members shall be conducted by the election officials for state and municipal elections. In a school board election held in conjunction with a state, county, municipal or judicial election, the polling places for the state, county, municipal or judicial election shall be the polling places for the school board election and the municipal election hours shall apply. If no state, county, municipal or judicial election is held on the day of the school board election, the school board may set the election hours and select the polling places to be used. The election costs shall be charged as provided in ss. 5.68 and 7.03. Election hours set by the school board shall be the same as those provided by the municipal governing body in which the polling place is located, except that if the opening hour is later than 7 a.m., the school board may extend the opening hour to not earlier than 7 a.m.