

2003 SENATE BILL 1

January 10, 2003 – Introduced by Senator PANZER, cosponsored by Representative GARD. Referred to Committee on Homeland Security, Veterans and Military Affairs and Government Reform.

1 **AN ACT** *to renumber and amend* 13.55 (1); and *to create* 13.55 (1) (b) of the
2 statutes; **relating to:** service as a commissioner on uniform state laws.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a nine-member delegation is designated to represent this state within the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws (NCCUSL). Currently, the delegation must include two senators and two representatives to the assembly from the two major political parties. The NCCUSL permits only attorneys who are members of a state bar association to be voting commissioners or associate members of the NCCUSL.

This bill requires the legislative members of the delegation to be members of the state bar of Wisconsin. The bill also specifies that that a former senator or former representative to the assembly who was a member of the delegation during his or her term in office and who is a member of the state bar shall be appointed to the delegation if an insufficient number of current legislators are members of the state bar. Under the bill, these provisions do not apply if NCCUSL permits individuals to become voting commissioners or associate members without regard to membership in a bar association.

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

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1 **SECTION 1.** 13.55 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 13.55 (1) (a) and amended
2 to read:

3 13.55 (1) (a) There is created a 9–member commission on uniform state laws
4 to advise the legislature with regard to uniform laws and model laws. The Except
5 as provided under par. (b), the commission shall consist of the director of the
6 legislative council staff or a professional employee of the legislative council staff
7 designated by the director, the chief of the legislative reference bureau or a
8 professional employee under s. 13.92 (1) (b) designated by the chief, the revisor of
9 statutes, 2 senators and 2 representatives to the assembly from the 2 major political
10 parties appointed as are members of standing committees for 2–year terms, and 2
11 public members appointed by the governor for 4–year terms. The terms of members
12 appointed by the governor or by the legislature shall expire on May 1 of an
13 odd–numbered year. The members, other than the appointees of the governor or of
14 the legislature, may each designate an employee to represent them at any meeting
15 of the conference under sub. (3).

16 **SECTION 2.** 13.55 (1) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

17 13.55 (1) (b) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, only senators and
18 representatives to the assembly who are members of the bar association of this state
19 may be appointed to seats designated for the offices of senator and representative to
20 the assembly under par. (a). A seat designated for one of these offices that can not
21 be filled as a result of this requirement shall be filled by a former senator or
22 representative to the assembly from the applicable political party who served on the
23 commission during his or her term as a senator or representative to the assembly and
24 who is a member of the bar association of this state. The former senator or
25 representative to the assembly shall be appointed as are members of standing

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1 committees and shall serve for a 2-year term as provided under par. (a). This
2 paragraph does not apply if the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform
3 State Laws permits individuals to become voting commissioners or associate
4 members of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws
5 without regard to membership in the bar of the state that the individual represents.

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(END)