

**DRAFTER'S NOTE
FROM THE
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU**

LRBa1245/1dn
DAK:jld:jf

October 20, 2003

To Representative Grothman:

Section 291 of the "Help Americans Vote Act of 2002" refers to "persons with disabilities" in outlining requirements for payment to protection and advocacy agencies to ensure full participation in the electoral process. The enabling federal statutes for protection and advocacy agencies, however, refer to "persons with developmental disabilities" and "persons with mental illness." Therefore, it appears that the "Help Americans Vote Act of 2002" was referring only to persons with developmental disabilities; hence, this amendment, although it is possible that more eligible voters may be found among the population of persons with mental illness.

Debora A. Kennedy
Managing Attorney
Phone: (608) 266-0137
E-mail: debora.kennedy@legis.state.wi.us