

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

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Senator Darling:

As I mentioned to John Vandlik, the provisions of proposed s. 27.161 (7) (a) 3. of this draft that call for the initial commissioners of a local park district to be elected at the general election in some cases may raise concerns on the part of election administrators if it is determined that the voting equipment that is in use cannot readily accommodate both a partisan ballot and a nonpartisan ballot at the same election. You may wish to contact the Elections Board for advice on this issue.

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Whether Milwaukee County can simply transfer some of its employees to the Park District is an issue that needs to be examined in light of any applicable collective bargaining agreement covering the employees. If the Park District is a distinct employer under the Municipal Employment Relations Act (MERA), the transfer may be actually laying off the employees and guaranteeing initial employment with the Park District. If so, the collective bargaining agreements likely have layoff provisions, which may include notice, bumping rights, and severance pay. Some employees may seek to exercise rights to avoid a transfer.

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