2007 ASSEMBLY BILL 158

March 12, 2007 – Introduced by Representatives JESKIEWITZ, LOTHIAN, TOWNSEND, VOS, STONE, A. OTT, ALBERS, OWENS, NASS, STRACHOTA and GUNDERUM, cosponsored by Senator GROTHMAN. Referred to Committee on Elections and Constitutional Law.

AN ACT to repeal 6.26 (2) (d), 6.275 (1) (c), 6.29, 6.32 (3), 6.54, 6.55 (2) (a) 2., 6.55 (2) (cm), 6.55 (3) (b), 6.55 (6) and 6.86 (3) (a) 2.; to renumber 6.86 (3) (a) 1.; to renumber and amend 6.55 (2) (a) 1., 6.55 (2) (d), 6.55 (3) (a) and 6.97 (3); to amend 6.02 (1), 6.02 (2), 6.10 (3), 6.10 (4), 6.15 (1), 6.15 (2) (a), 6.15 (3), 6.18 (form), 6.275 (1) (b), 6.275 (1) (d), 6.28 (1), 6.30 (1), 6.32 (4), 6.33 (1), 6.33 (2) (b), 6.34 (2), 6.36 (5), 6.40 (1) (a) 1., 6.40 (1) (c), 6.45 (1), 6.45 (1m), 6.50 (10), 6.55 (title), 6.55 (2) (b), 6.55 (2) (c) 1., 6.55 (2) (cs), 6.56 (1), 6.56 (3), 6.56 (5), 6.79 (2) (b) and (c), 6.79 (4), 6.85, 6.86 (3) (b), 6.86 (3) (c), 6.87 (2) (form), 6.94, 6.97 (1), 6.97 (2), 7.03 (1) (d), 7.15 (1) (L), 7.30 (2) (a), 7.315 (1) (a) and (b) 1., 7.37 (13), 12.13 (3) (v) and 17.29; to repeal and recreate 6.15 (2) (title); and to create 6.79 (2) (dn), 6.86 (1) (d) and 6.97 (3) (b) of the statutes; relating to: the
deadline and procedure for voter registration and the determination of residency for voting purposes.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, voter registration is required in all municipalities. With certain exceptions, the deadline for voter registration at an election is 5 p.m. on the third Wednesday preceding the election. Registrations made by mail must be delivered to the office of the municipal clerk or board of election commissioners or postmarked no later than this deadline. However, under current law, voters may also register in person at the office of the municipal clerk or board of election commissioners until 5 p.m. on the day before the election or, in most cases, may register at the proper polling place or other designated location on election day. If an elector registers at the office of the municipal clerk or board of election commissioners after the close of registration or at a polling place or other designated location on election day, the elector must present acceptable proof of residence or have another elector of the same ward or, if a municipality is not divided into wards, of the same municipality, sign a statement corroborating the elector’s registration. The corroborating elector must then present acceptable proof of residence.

This bill provides that the deadline for registration is 5 p.m. on the 14th day preceding the election. Under the bill, in-person registrations must be completed by this deadline, and registrations made by mail must be delivered or postmarked no later than this deadline. The bill discontinues the procedure for registration at polling places and other designated locations on election day. However, the bill permits an elector who changes his or her name or who moves to a new residence within the same ward or, if a municipality is not divided into wards, of the same municipality, to update his or her registration at the proper polling place or other designated location on election day.

Under current law, with certain limited exceptions, an individual must be a resident of this state for ten days before an election to be eligible to vote in the election. This bill increases this durational residency requirement to 14 days.

The bill provides that if an elector claims to have registered to vote in an election at the address where the elector seeks to vote no later than the 14th day before the election but the elector’s name does not appear on the registration list at that address, the elector may cast a marked, provisional ballot. If by 4 p.m. on the day after the election, the elector submits proof to the municipal clerk or executive director of the municipal board of election commissioners that the elector was properly registered and the clerk or executive director notifies the appropriate board or boards of canvassers of that fact, the provisional ballot is counted.

If enacted, this bill will activate certain requirements under the National Voter Registration Act (commonly referred to as the motor voter law), from which this state is currently exempt. Primarily, these requirements include simultaneous voter registration with motor vehicle driver’s license applications and renewals, voter registration at any office that provides public assistance, voter registration at any
office that primarily provides state-funded services to persons with disabilities, and voter registration at armed forces recruiting offices. In addition, the bill will activate a requirement under the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 that authorizes voters whose ballots are not accepted at federal elections to cast provisional ballots in those elections. This state is currently exempt from that requirement.

For further information see the state and 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. 6.02 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.02 (1) Every U.S. citizen age 18 or older who has resided in an election district or ward for 10 14 days before any election where the citizen offers to vote is an eligible elector.

SECTION 2. 6.02 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.02 (2) Any U.S. citizen age 18 or older who moves within this state later than 10 14 days before an election shall vote at his or her previous ward or election district if the person is otherwise qualified. If the elector can comply with the 10−day 14−day residence requirement at the new address and is otherwise qualified, he or she may vote in the new ward or election district.

SECTION 3. 6.10 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.10 (3) When an elector moves from one ward to another within a municipality or from one municipality to another within the state after the last registration day but at least 10 days before the election, the elector may vote in and be considered a resident of the new ward or municipality where residing upon transferring registration under s. 6.40 (1) or upon registering at the proper polling place or other registration location in the new ward or municipality under s. 6.55 (2) or 6.86 (3) (a)
2. If the elector moves within 10 \(14\) days of an election, the elector shall vote in the
elector’s old former ward or municipality if otherwise qualified to vote there.

**SECTION 4.** 6.10 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.10 (4) The residence of an unmarried person sleeping in one ward and
boarding in another is the place where the person sleeps. The residence of an
unmarried person in a transient vocation, a teacher or a student who boards at
different places for part of the week, month, or year, if one of the places is the
residence of the person’s parents, is the place of the parents’ residence unless through
registration or similar act the person elects to establish a residence elsewhere. If the
person has no parents and if the person has not registered elsewhere, the person’s
residence shall be at the place which that the person considered his or her residence
in preference to any other for at least 10 \(14\) days before an election. If this place is
within the municipality, the person is entitled to all the privileges and subject to all
the duties of other citizens having their residence there, including voting.

**SECTION 5.** 6.15 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.15 (1) Qualifications. Any person who was or who is a qualified elector under
ss. 6.02 and 6.03, except that he or she has been a resident of this state for less than
10 \(14\) days prior to the date of the presidential election, is entitled to vote for the
president and vice president but for no other offices. The fact that the person was
not registered to vote in the state from which he or she moved does not prevent voting
in this state if the elector is otherwise qualified.

**SECTION 6.** 6.15 (2) (title) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

6.15 (2) (title) Application for ballot.

**SECTION 7.** 6.15 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:
6.15 (2) (a) The elector’s request for the application form may be made in person to the municipal clerk of the municipality where the person resides. Application may be made not sooner than 9 13 days nor later than 5 p.m. on the day before the election, or may be made at the proper polling place in the ward or election district in which the elector resides. If an elector makes application before election day, the application form shall be returned to the municipal clerk after the affidavit has been signed in the presence of the clerk or any officer authorized by law to administer oaths. The affidavit shall be in substantially the following form:

STATE OF WISCONSIN

County of ....

I, ...., do solemnly swear that I am a citizen of the United States; that prior to establishing Wisconsin residence, my legal residence was in the .... (town) (village) (city) of ...., state of ....; residing at .... (street address); that on the day of the next presidential election, I shall be at least 18 years of age and that I have been a legal resident of the state of Wisconsin since ...., .... (year), residing at .... (street address), in the [.... ward of the .... aldermanic district of] the (town) (village) (city) of ...., county of ....; that I have resided in the state less than 10 14 days, that I am qualified to vote for president and vice president at the election to be held November ...., .... (year), that I am not voting at any other place in this election and that I hereby make application for an official presidential ballot, in accordance with section 6.15 of the Wisconsin statutes.

Signed ....

P.O. Address ....

Subscribed and sworn to before me this .... day of ...., .... (year)

....(Name)
SECTION 8. 6.15 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.15 (3) Procedure at polling place Use of electronic voting systems. An eligible elector may appear at the polling place for the ward or election district where he or she resides and make application for a ballot under sub. (2). Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, an elector who casts a ballot under this subsection shall follow the same procedure required for casting a ballot at the municipal clerk’s office under sub. (2). The inspectors shall perform the duties of the municipal clerk, except that the inspectors shall return the cancellation card under sub. (2) (b) to the municipal clerk and the clerk shall forward the card as provided in sub. (2) (c) if required. Upon proper completion of the application and cancellation card and submittal of proof of residence under s. 6.34 or providing corroboration of residence, the inspectors shall permit the elector to cast his or her ballot for president and vice president. The elector shall mark the ballot and, unless the ballot is utilized with an electronic voting system, the elector shall fold the ballot, and deposit the ballot into the ballot box or give it to the inspector. The inspector shall deposit it directly into the ballot box. Voting machines or ballots utilized with electronic voting systems may only be used by electors voting under this section if they permit voting for president and vice president only.

SECTION 9. 6.18 (form) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.18 (form)

This form shall be returned to the municipal clerk’s office. Application must be received in sufficient time for ballots to be mailed and returned prior to any presidential election at which applicant wishes to vote. Complete all statements in full.
APPLICATION FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTOR'S ABSENTEE BALLOT.

(To be voted at the Presidential Election on November ...., .... (year)

I, .... hereby swear or affirm that I am a citizen of the United States, formerly residing at .... in the .... ward .... aldermanic district (city, town, village) of ...., County of .... for 10 14 days prior to leaving the State of Wisconsin. I, .... do solemnly swear or affirm that I do not qualify to register or vote under the laws of the State of ....(State you now reside in) where I am presently residing. A citizen must be a resident of: State ....(Insert time) County ....(Insert time) City, Town or Village ....(Insert time), in order to be eligible to register or vote therein. I further swear or affirm that my legal residence was established in the State of ....(the State where you now reside) on .... Month .... Day .... Year.

Signed ....

Address ....(Present address)

....(City) ....(State)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this .... day of .... .... (year)

....(Notary Public, or other officer authorized to administer oaths.)

....(County)

My Commission expires

MAIL BALLOT TO:

NAME ....

ADDRESS ....

CITY .... STATE .... ZIP CODE ....
Penalties for Violations. Whoever swears falsely to any absent elector affidavit under this section may be fined not more than $1,000 or imprisoned for not more than 6 months or both. Whoever intentionally votes more than once in an election may be fined not more than $10,000 or imprisoned for not more than 3 years and 6 months or both.

...(Municipal Clerk)

...(Municipality)

SECTION 10. 6.26 (2) (d) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 11. 6.275 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.275 (1) (b) The total number of electors of the municipality residing in that county who were registered on the deadline specified in s. 6.28 (1), including valid mail registrations which are postmarked by that day.

SECTION 12. 6.275 (1) (c) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 13. 6.275 (1) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.275 (1) (d) The total number of electors of the municipality residing in that county who registered on the day of the primary or election under ss. 6.55 and 6.86 (3) (a) 2 (2).

SECTION 14. 6.28 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.28 (1) Registration locations; deadline. Except as authorized in ss. 6.29, s. 6.55 (2), and 6.86 (3) (a) 2, registration in person for any election shall close at 5 p.m. on the 3rd Wednesday 14th day preceding the election. Registrations made by mail under s. 6.30 (4) must be delivered to the office of the municipal clerk or postmarked no later than the 3rd Wednesday 14th day preceding the election. All applications for registration corrections and additions may be made throughout the year at the office of the city board of election commissioners, at the office of the municipal clerk,
at the office of the county clerk, or at other locations provided by the board of election
commissioners or the common council in cities over 500,000 population or by either
or both the municipal clerk, or the common council, village or town board in all other
municipalities and may also be made during the school year at any high school by
qualified persons under sub. (2) (a). Other registration locations may include but are
not limited to fire houses, police stations, public libraries, institutions of higher
education, supermarkets, community centers, plants and factories, banks, savings
and loan associations and savings banks. Special registration deputies shall be
appointed for each location unless the location can be sufficiently staffed by the board
of election commissioners or the municipal clerk or his or her deputies. An elector
who wishes to obtain a confidential listing under s. 6.47 (2) shall register at the office
of the municipal clerk of the municipality where the elector resides.

**SECTION 15.** 6.29 of the statutes is repealed.

**SECTION 16.** 6.30 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

> 6.30 (1) **IN PERSON.** An elector shall apply for registration in person, except as
provided under sub. (4) and s. 6.86 (3) (a) 2.

**SECTION 17.** 6.32 (3) of the statutes is repealed.

**SECTION 18.** 6.32 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

> 6.32 (4) If the form is sufficient to accomplish registration and the clerk has no
reliable information to indicate that the proposed elector is not qualified, the clerk
shall enter the elector’s name on the registration list and transmit a 1st class letter
or postcard to the registrant, specifying the date of registration and the elector’s
ward or aldermanic district, or both, if any, and polling place. The letter or postcard
shall be sent within 10 days of receipt of the form. If the letter or postcard is returned,
or if the clerk is informed of a different address than the one specified by the elector,
the clerk shall change the status of the elector on the list from eligible to ineligible. The letter or postcard shall be marked in accordance with postal regulations to ensure that it will be returned to the clerk if the elector does not reside at the address given on the letter or postcard.

**SECTION 19.** 6.33 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.33 (1) The board shall prescribe the format, size, and shape of registration forms. All forms shall be printed on cards and each item of information shall be of uniform font size, as prescribed by the board. The municipal clerk shall supply sufficient form to meet voter registration needs. The forms shall be designed to obtain from each applicant information as to name; date; residence location; citizenship; date of birth; age; the number of a valid operator’s license issued to the elector under ch. 343 or the last 4 digits of the elector’s social security account number; whether the applicant has resided within the ward or election district for at least 10 days; whether the applicant has been convicted of a felony for which he or she has not been pardoned, and if so, whether the applicant is incarcerated, or on parole, probation, or extended supervision; whether the applicant is disqualified on any other ground from voting; and whether the applicant is currently registered to vote at any other location. The form shall include a space for the applicant’s signature and the signature of any corroborating elector. The form shall include a space to enter the name of any special registration deputy under s. 6.26 or 6.55 (6) or inspector, municipal clerk, or deputy clerk under s. 6.55 (2) who obtains the form and a space for the deputy, inspector, clerk, or deputy clerk to sign his or her name, affirming that the deputy, inspector, clerk, or deputy clerk has accepted the form. The form shall include a space for entry of the ward and aldermanic district, if any, where the elector resides and any other information required to determine the offices
and referenda for which the elector is certified to vote. The form shall also include
a space where the clerk may record an indication of whether the form is received by
mail, a space where the clerk may record an indication of the type of identifying
document submitted by the elector as proof of residence under s. 6.34, whenever
required, and a space where the clerk, for any applicant who possesses a valid voting
identification card issued to the person under s. 6.47 (3), may record the
identification serial number appearing on the voting identification card. Each
county clerk shall obtain sufficient registration forms for completion by an elector
who desires to register to vote at the office of the county clerk under s. 6.28 (4).

SECTION 20. 6.33 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.33 (2) (b) Except as provided in s. 6.86 (3) (a) 2., the registration form
shall be signed by the registering elector and any corroborating elector under s. 6.29
(2) (a) or 6.55 (2) before the clerk, issuing officer, or registration deputy. The form
shall contain a certification by the registering elector that all statements are true
and correct.

SECTION 21. 6.34 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.34 (2) Except as authorized in ss. 6.29 (2) (a) and 6.86 (3) (a) 2., upon
completion of a registration form prescribed under s. 6.33, each elector who is
required to register under s. 6.27, who is not a military elector or an overseas elector
and who registers after the close of registration under s. 6.29 or 6.86 (3) (a) 2., shall
provide an identifying document that establishes proof of residence under sub. (3).
Each elector who is required to register under s. 6.27 who is not a military elector or
an overseas elector who registers by mail, and who has not voted in an election in this
state shall, if voting in person, provide an identifying document that establishes
proof of residence under sub. (3) or, if voting by absentee ballot, provide a copy of an
identifying document that establishes proof of residence under sub. (3). If the elector registered by mail, the identifying document may not be a residential lease.

**SECTION 22.** 6.36 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.36 (5) After each general election, the board shall contact the chief election official of each state from which an elector who voted in that election presented a valid driver's license under s. 6.29 (2) (a), 6.55 (2) (b) or (c) 1., or 6.86 (3) (a) 2., for so long as the license remains valid. The board shall inquire whether the holder of the driver’s license voted in that election in that state.

**SECTION 23.** 6.40 (1) (a) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

6.40 (1) (a) 1. Any registered elector shall transfer registration after a change of residence within the state by filing in person with the municipal clerk or by mailing to the municipal clerk a signed request stating his or her present address, affirming that this will be his or her residence for 14 days prior to the election and providing the address where he or she was last registered. Alternatively, the elector may transfer his or her registration at the proper polling place or other registration location under s. 6.02 (2) in accordance with s. 6.55 (2) (a). If an elector is voting in the ward or election district where the elector formerly resided changes his or her residence from one municipality to another or from one ward to another within the same municipality, within 14 days of an election, the change shall be effective for the next election.

**SECTION 24.** 6.40 (1) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.40 (1) (c) Name change. Whenever an elector’s name is legally changed, including a change by marriage or divorce, the elector shall transfer his or her registration to his or her legal name by appearing in person or mailing to the municipal clerk a signed request for a transfer of registration to such name.
Alternatively, a registered elector may make notification of a name change at his or her polling place under s. 6.55 (2) (d) (1).

**SECTION 25.** 6.45 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.45 (1) After the deadline for revision of the registration list, the municipal clerk shall make copies of the list for election use. The registration list and any supplemental lists which are prepared at polling places or other registration locations under s. 6.55 or 6.79, shall be open to public inspection. Under the regulations prescribed by the municipal clerk, any person may copy the registration list at the office of the clerk. A registration list maintained at a polling place may be examined by any person who is observing the proceedings under s. 7.41 when such use does not interfere with the conduct of the election.

**SECTION 26.** 6.45 (1m) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.45 (1m) The registration list and any supplemental lists which are prepared at polling places or other registration locations under s. 6.55 or 6.79, shall be open to public inspection. Under the regulations prescribed by the municipal clerk, any person may copy the registration list at the office of the clerk. A registration list maintained at a polling place may be examined by any person who is observing the proceedings under s. 7.41 when such use does not interfere with the conduct of the election. This subsection does not apply to information that is confidential under s. 6.47.

**SECTION 27.** 6.50 (10) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.50 (10) Any qualified elector whose registration is changed from eligible to ineligible status under this section may reregister as provided under s. 6.28 (1), 6.29 (2), or transfer his or her registration as provided under s. 6.55 (2).

**SECTION 28.** 6.54 of the statutes is repealed.
SECTION 29. 6.55 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.55 (title) Polling place Updating registration; voting by certification at polling place.

SECTION 30. 6.55 (2) (a) 1. of the statutes is renumbered 6.55 (2) (a) and amended to read:

6.55 (2) (a) Except where the procedure under par. (c) or (cm) is employed, any person who qualifies as an elector in the ward or election district where he or she desires to vote, but has not previously filed a registration form, or was registered at another location, registered elector who has changed his or her residence within the ward or election district in which he or she is registered and who has not notified the municipal clerk of the change of address under s. 6.40 (1) may request permission to vote at the polling place for that ward or election district serving the elector’s residence, or at an alternate polling place assigned under s. 5.25 (5) (b). When a proper request is made, the inspector shall require the person to execute elector to transfer his or her registration by executing a registration form prescribed by the board. The registration form shall be completed in the manner provided under s. 6.33 (2) and shall contain all information required under s. 6.33 (1), together with the following certification:

“I, ..., hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, I am a qualified elector, having resided at .... for at least 10 14 days immediately preceding this election, and I have not voted at this election.”

SECTION 31. 6.55 (2) (a) 2. of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 32. 6.55 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.55 (2) (b) Upon executing the registration form under par. (a), the elector shall provide proof of residence under s. 6.34. If the elector cannot provide proof of
residence, the information contained in the registration form shall be corroborated in a statement that is signed by any elector who resides in the same municipality as the registering elector and that contains the current street address of the corroborating elector. The corroborator shall then provide proof of residence as provided in s. 6.34. If the elector is registering to vote in transferring his or her registration at the general election and the elector presents a valid driver's license issued by another state, the inspector or deputy shall record on a separate list the name and address of the elector, the name of the state, and the license number and expiration date of the license. The signing by the elector executing the who is transferring his or her registration form and by any corroborator shall be in the presence of the special registration deputy or inspector who shall then print his or her name on and sign the form, indicating that the deputy or inspector has accepted the form. Upon compliance with this procedure, the elector shall be permitted to cast his or her vote, if the elector complies with all other requirements for voting at the polling place.

SECTION 33. 6.55 (2) (c) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

6.55 (2) (c) 1. As an alternative to transferring registration at the polling place under pars. (a) and (b), the board of election commissioners, or the governing body of any municipality may by resolution require a person who qualifies as an elector and who is not registered and desires to register on the day of an election to do so registered elector who has changed his or her residence within the ward or election district in which he or she is registered, who has not notified the municipal clerk of the change of address under s. 6.40 (1), and who desires to vote to transfer his or her registration at another readily accessible location in the same building as the polling place serving the elector's residence or at an alternate polling place assigned under
s. 5.25 (5) (b), instead of at the polling place serving the elector’s residence. In such
case, the municipal clerk shall prominently post a notice of the registration location
of the location designated for transferring registrations at the polling place. The
elector who desires to register transfer registration shall execute transfer his or her
registration by executing a registration form as prescribed under par. (a) and provide
proof of residence as provided under s. 6.34. If the elector cannot provide proof of
residence, the information contained in the registration form shall be corroborated
in the manner provided in par. (b). If the elector is registering to vote in the general
election and the elector presents a valid driver’s license issued by another state, the
municipal clerk, deputy clerk, or special registration deputy shall record on a
separate list the name and address of the elector, the name of the state, and the
license number and expiration date of the license. The signing by the elector
executing the registration form and by any corroborator shall be in the presence of
the municipal clerk, or deputy clerk or special registration deputy. The municipal
clerk, or the deputy clerk, or the special registration deputy shall then print his or
her name and sign the form, indicating that the clerk, or deputy clerk, or deputy has
accepted the form. Upon proper completion of registration, the municipal clerk, or
deputy clerk or special registration deputy shall serially number the registration and
give one copy to the elector for presentation at the polling place serving the elector’s
residence or an alternate polling place assigned under s. 5.25 (5) (b).

SECTION 34. 6.55 (2) (cm) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 35. 6.55 (2) (cs) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.55 (2) (cs) The board shall provide to each municipal clerk a list prepared for
use at each polling place showing the name and address of each person whose name
appears on the list provided by the department of corrections under s. 301.03 (20)
301.03 (20m) as ineligible to vote on the date of the election, whose address is located in the area served by that polling place, and whose name does not appear on the poll list for that polling place. Prior to permitting an elector to register to vote under this subsection or s. 6.86 (3) (a) 2., the inspectors or special registration deputies shall review the list. If the name of an elector who wishes to register to vote appears on the list, the inspectors or special registration deputies shall inform the elector or the elector’s agent that the elector is ineligible to register to vote. If the elector or the elector’s agent maintains that the elector is eligible to vote in the election, the inspectors or special registration deputies shall permit the elector to register but shall mark the elector’s registration form as “ineligible to vote per Department of Corrections.” If the elector wishes to vote, the inspectors shall require the elector to vote by ballot and shall challenge the ballot as provided in s. 6.79 (2) (dm).

SECTION 36. 6.55 (2) (d) of the statutes is renumbered 6.55 (1) and amended to read:

6.55 (1) A registered elector who has changed his or her name but resides at the same address, and has not notified the municipal clerk under s. 6.40 (1) (c), shall notify the inspector of the change before voting. The inspector shall then notify the municipal clerk at the time when materials are returned under s. 6.56 (1). If a registered elector has changed both a name and address, the elector who has changed his or her residence within the ward or election district in which he or she is registered and who has not notified the municipal clerk of the change of address under s. 6.40 (1) shall register transfer his or her registration by completing a registration form at the polling place or other registration location under pars. (a) and (b) sub. (2) before voting. A registered elector who has changed his or her residence within this state from one municipality to another or within a municipality...
from one ward to another, and who has not notified the municipal clerk of the change
of address under s. 6.40 (1), may not be permitted to vote, except at a subsequent
election for which the elector is properly registered or as authorized under s. 6.10 (3)
or 6.85 (2).

SECTION 37. 6.55 (3) (a) of the statutes is renumbered 6.55 (3) and amended to
read:

6.55 (3) Any qualified elector in the ward or election district where the elector
desires to vote whose name does not appear on the registration list but who claims
to be registered to vote in the election may request permission to vote at the polling
place for that ward or election district. When the request is made, the inspector shall
require the person to give his or her name and address. If the elector is not at the
polling place which serves the ward or election district where the elector resides, the
inspector shall provide the elector with directions to the correct polling place. If the
elector is at the correct polling place, the elector shall complete registration as
provided in sub. (2).

SECTION 38. 6.55 (3) (b) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 39. 6.55 (6) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 40. 6.56 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.56 (1) The list containing the names of persons voting transferring
registration under ss. 6.29 and 6.55 (2) shall be returned together with all forms
and certificates to the municipal clerk.

SECTION 41. 6.56 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.56 (3) Upon receipt of the list under sub. (1), the municipal clerk or board of
election commissioners shall make an audit of all electors registering to vote
transferring registration at the polling place or other registration location under s.
6.55 (2) and all electors registering by agent on election day under s. 6.86 (3) (a) 2., unless the clerk or board of election commissioners receives notice from the board under sub. (7) that the board will perform the audit. The audit shall be made by 1st class postcard. The postcard shall be marked in accordance with postal regulations to ensure that it will be returned to the clerk, board of election commissioners, or elections board if the elector does not reside at the address given on the postcard. If any postcard is returned undelivered, or if the clerk, board of election commissioners, or elections board is informed of a different address than the one specified by the elector which was apparently improper on the day of the election, the clerk, board of election commissioners, or elections board shall change the status of the elector from eligible to ineligible on the registration list, mail the elector a notice of the change in status, and provide the name of the elector to the district attorney for the county where the polling place is located.

SECTION 42. 6.56 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.56 (5) Whenever any letter or postcard mailed under this section is returned undelivered, or whenever the U.S. postal service notifies the clerk of an improper address which was apparently improper on the day of the election or whenever it otherwise appears that a person has voted who is not qualified or has voted more than once in an election, and the person has been permitted to vote after corroboration was made under s. 6.55 (2) or 6.86 (3) (a) 2., the name of the corroborator shall also be provided to the district attorney.

SECTION 43. 6.79 (2) (b) and (c) of the statutes are amended to read:

6.79 (2) (b) Upon the poll list, after the name of each elector, the officials shall enter a serial number for each elector in the order that votes are cast, beginning with
number one. The officials shall enter upon the poll list, after the name of any elector who updates his or her registration under s. 6.55 (1), the updated name of the elector.

(c) The officials shall maintain separate lists for electors who are voting under s. 6.15, 6.29, or transferring registrations under s. 6.55 (2) or (3) and electors who are reassigned from another polling place under s. 5.25 (5) (b) and shall enter the full name, address, and serial number of each of these electors on the appropriate separate list. Alternatively, if the poll list is maintained electronically, the officials may enter on the poll list the information that would otherwise appear on a separate list if the information that would be obtainable from a separate list is entered on the poll list.

SECTION 44. 6.79 (2) (dn) of the statutes is created to read:

6.79 (2) (dn) If the elector claims to have registered at an address that is served by the polling place on or before the 14th day preceding the election, but the elector’s name does not appear on the poll list, the officials shall offer the elector the opportunity to vote under s. 6.97.

SECTION 45. 6.79 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.79 (4) SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION. When any elector provides proof of residence under s. 6.15, 6.29 or 6.55 (2), the election officials shall enter the type of identifying document provided on the poll list, or separate list maintained under sub. (2) (c). If the document submitted as proof of identity or residence includes a number which applies only to the individual holding that document, the election officials shall also enter that number on the list. When any elector corroborates the registration identity or residence of any person offering to vote under s. 6.55 (2) (b) or (c), or the registration identity or residence of any person registering on election day under s. 6.86 (3) (a) 2., the election officials shall also enter the name and address
of the corroborator next to the name of the elector whose information is being corroborated on the poll list, or the separate list maintained under sub. (2) (c). When any person offering to vote has been challenged and taken the oath, following the person’s name on the poll list, the officials shall enter the word “Sworn”.

**SECTION 46.** 6.85 of the statutes is amended to read:

**6.85 Absent elector; definition. (1)** An absent elector is any otherwise qualified elector who for any reason is unable or unwilling to appear at the polling place in his or her ward.

(2) Any otherwise qualified elector who changes residence within this state by moving to a different ward or municipality later than 14 days prior to an election may vote an absentee ballot in the ward or municipality where he or she was qualified to vote before moving.

(3) An elector qualifying under this section may vote by absentee ballot under ss. 6.86 to 6.89.

**SECTION 47.** 6.86 (1) (d) of the statutes is created to read:

6.86 (1) (d) If an elector other than a military elector applies for an absentee ballot for an election at the office of the municipal clerk after the 14th day preceding the election and the elector claims to have registered at an address that is located in the municipality on or before the 14th day preceding the election, but the elector’s name does not appear on the registration list, the municipal clerk shall offer the elector the opportunity to vote under s. 6.97. If the individual chooses to vote under s. 6.97, the municipal clerk shall mark on the certificate envelope an indication that the elector’s name does not appear on the registration list.

**SECTION 48.** 6.86 (3) (a) 1. of the statutes is renumbered 6.86 (3) (a).

**SECTION 49.** 6.86 (3) (a) 2. of the statutes is repealed.
SECTION 50. 6.86 (3) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.86 (3) (b) When each properly executed form and statement required under par. (a) is presented to the municipal clerk, if the elector who proposes to vote is qualified, an absentee ballot shall be issued and the name of such hospitalized elector shall be recorded by the clerk or special registration deputy. An agent who is issued an absentee ballot under this section shall present documentation of his or her identity, provide his or her name and address, and attest to a statement that the ballot is received solely for the benefit of a named elector who is hospitalized, and the agent will promptly transmit the ballot to such person.

SECTION 51. 6.86 (3) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.86 (3) (c) An application under par. (a) 1. this subsection may be made and a registration form under par. (a) 2. may be filed in person at the office of the municipal clerk not earlier than 7 days before an election and not later than 5 p.m. on the day of the election. A list of hospitalized electors applying for ballots under par. (a) 1. this subsection shall be made by the municipal clerk and used to check that the electors vote only once, and by absentee ballot. If the elector is registering for the election after the close of registration or if the elector registered by mail and has not voted in an election in this state, the municipal clerk shall inform the agent that proof of residence under s. 6.34 is required and the elector shall enclose proof of residence under s. 6.34 in the envelope with the ballot. The ballot shall be sealed by the elector and returned to the municipal clerk either by mail or by personal delivery of the agent; but if the ballot is returned on the day of the election, the agent shall make personal delivery to the polling place serving the hospitalized elector’s residence before the closing hour or, in municipalities where absentee ballots are canvassed under s. 7.52, to the municipal clerk no later than 8 p.m. on election day.
SECTION 52. 6.87 (2) (form) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.87 (2) (form)

[STATE OF ....

or

[(name of foreign country and city or other jurisdictional unit)]

I, ...., certify subject to the penalties of s. 12.60 (1) (b), Wis. Stats., for false statements, that I am a resident of the [.... ward of the] (town) (village) of ...., or of the .... aldermanic district in the city of ...., residing at ....* in said city, the county of ...., state of Wisconsin, and am entitled to vote in the (ward) (election district) at the election to be held on ....; that I am not voting at any other location in this election; that I am unable or unwilling to appear at the polling place in the (ward) (election district) on election day or have changed my residence within the state from one ward or election district to another within 10 14 days before the election. I certify that I exhibited the enclosed ballot unmarked to the witness, that I then in (his) (her) presence and in the presence of no other person marked the ballot and enclosed and sealed the same in this envelope in such a manner that no one but myself and any person rendering assistance under s. 6.87 (5), Wis. Stats., if I requested assistance, could know how I voted.

Signed ....

Identification serial number, if any: ....

The witness shall execute the following:

I, the undersigned witness, subject to the penalties of s. 12.60 (1) (b), Wis. Stats., for false statements, certify that I am an adult U.S. citizen and that the above statements are true and the voting procedure was executed as there stated. I am not a candidate for any office on the enclosed ballot (except in the case of an incumbent
municipal clerk). I did not solicit or advise the elector to vote for or against any
candidate or measure.

....(Name)

....(Address)**

* — An elector who provides an identification serial number issued under s. 6.47 (3), Wis. Stats., need not provide a street address.

** — If this form is executed before 2 special voting deputies under s. 6.875 (6), Wis. Stats., both deputies shall witness and sign.

**SECTION 53.** 6.94 of the statutes is amended to read:

**6.94 Challenged elector oath.** If the person challenged refuses to answer fully any relevant questions put to him or her by the inspector under s. 6.92, the inspectors shall reject the elector’s vote. If the challenge is not withdrawn after the person offering to vote has answered the questions, one of the inspectors shall administer to the person the following oath or affirmation: “You do solemnly swear (or affirm) that: you are 18 years of age; you are a citizen of the United States; you are now and for 10 14 days have been a resident of this ward except under s. 6.02 (2); you have not voted at this election; you have not made any bet or wager or become directly or indirectly interested in any bet or wager depending upon the result of this election; you are not on any other ground disqualified to vote at this election”. If the person challenged refuses to take the oath or affirmation, the person’s vote shall be rejected. If the person challenged answers fully all relevant questions put to the elector by the inspector under s. 6.92, takes the oath or affirmation, and fulfills the applicable registration requirements, and if the answers to the questions given by the person indicate that the person meets the voting qualification requirements, the person’s vote shall be received.
SECTION 54. 6.97 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.97 (1) Whenever any individual who is required to provide proof of residence under s. 6.34 in order to be permitted to vote appears to vote at a polling place and cannot provide the required proof of residence, the inspectors shall offer the opportunity for the individual to vote under this section. Whenever any individual appears to vote at a polling place and claims to be registered at an address served by the polling place on or before the 14th day preceding the election but the elector’s name does not appear on the poll list for that polling place, the inspectors shall similarly offer the opportunity for the elector to vote under this section. If the individual wishes to vote, the inspectors shall provide the elector with an envelope marked “Ballot under s. 6.97, stats.” on which the serial number of the elector is entered and shall require the individual to execute on the envelope a written affirmation stating that the individual is a qualified elector of the ward or election district where he or she offers to vote and is eligible to vote in the election. The inspectors shall, before giving the elector a ballot, write on the back of the ballot the serial number of the individual corresponding to the number kept at the election on the poll list or other list maintained under s. 6.79 and the notation “s. 6.97”. If voting machines are used in the municipality where the individual is voting, the individual’s vote may be received only upon an absentee ballot furnished by the municipal clerk which shall have the corresponding number from the poll list or other list maintained under s. 6.79 and the notation “s. 6.97” written on the back of the ballot by the inspectors before the ballot is given to the elector. When receiving the individual’s ballot, the inspectors shall provide the individual with written voting information prescribed by the board under s. 7.08 (8). The inspectors shall indicate on the list the fact that the individual is required to provide proof of
residence but did not do so, or that the elector claims to be properly registered to vote in the election, but the elector’s name does not appear on the poll list. The inspectors shall notify the individual that he or she may provide proof of residence to the municipal clerk or executive director of the municipal board of election commissioners or may provide proof of timely registration to the municipal clerk or executive director of the board of election commissioners. The inspectors shall also promptly notify the municipal clerk or executive director of the name, address, and serial number of the individual and the reason why the individual is voting under this section. The inspectors shall then place the ballot inside the envelope and place the envelope in a separate carrier envelope.

**SECTION 55.** 6.97 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.97 (2) Whenever any individual who votes by absentee ballot is required to provide proof of residence in order to be permitted to vote and does not provide the required proof of residence under s. 6.34, the inspectors shall treat the ballot as a provisional ballot under this section. Whenever any individual other than a military elector applies for an absentee ballot for an election at the office of the municipal clerk after the 14th day preceding the election, and the elector claims to be properly registered to vote in the election but the elector’s name does not appear on the registration list for the municipality, the inspectors shall similarly treat the ballot as a provisional ballot under this section. Upon removing the ballot from the envelope, the inspectors shall write on the back of the absentee ballot the serial number of the individual corresponding to the number kept at the election on the poll list or other list maintained under s. 6.79 and the notation “s. 6.97”. The inspectors shall indicate on the list the fact that the individual is required to provide proof of residence but did not do so, or that the elector claims to be properly registered to vote
in the election at an address served by the polling place, but the elector’s name does not appear on the poll list. The inspectors shall promptly notify the municipal clerk or executive director of the municipal board of election commissioners of the name, address, and serial number of the individual. The inspectors shall then place the ballot inside an envelope on which the name and serial number of the elector is entered and shall place the envelope in a separate carrier envelope.

SECTION 56. 6.97 (3) of the statutes is renumbered 6.97 (3) (a) and amended to read:

6.97 (3) (a) Whenever the municipal clerk or executive director of the municipal board of election commissioners is informed by the inspectors that a ballot has been cast under this section, the clerk or executive director shall promptly provide written notice to the board of canvassers of each municipality, special purpose district, and county that is responsible for canvassing the election of the number of ballots cast under this section in each ward or election district. The municipal clerk or executive director then shall determine whether each individual voting under this section is qualified to vote in the ward or election district where the individual’s ballot is cast. If the elector’s name does not appear on the registration list at the address where the elector resides, the elector bears the burden of providing proof of timely registration for the election. If a question arises as to whether an elector was registered at an address where the elector resides on or before the 14th day preceding an election, the elector may establish that he or she was properly registered to vote by submitting to the municipal clerk a first class letter or postcard that was received by the elector under s. 6.32 (4) showing a timely registration date or by demonstrating from municipal records that he or she has voted at the address where he or she now resides during the 4-year period preceding the election and submitting to the municipal
clerk a statement signed by the elector affirming that the elector has not changed his
or her residence since the date that the elector last voted at that residence. The
municipal clerk or executive director shall make a record of the procedure used to
determine the validity of each ballot. If, prior to 4 p.m. on the day after the election,
the municipal clerk or executive director determines that the individual is qualified
to vote in the ward or election district where the individual’s ballot is cast, the
municipal clerk or executive director shall notify the board of canvassers for each
municipality, special purpose district and county that is responsible for canvassing
the election of that fact.

**SECTION 57.** 6.97 (3) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

6.97 (3) (b) A ballot cast under this section by an elector whose name does not
appear on the registration list at the address where the elector resides shall not be
counted unless the municipal clerk or executive director of the board of election
commissioners provides timely notification that the elector was properly registered
to vote in the election at the address where the elector resides on the 14th day
preceding that election.

**SECTION 58.** 7.03 (1) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

7.03 (1) (d) Except as otherwise provided in par. (a), special registration
deputies appointed under s. 6.55 (6), special voting deputies appointed under s. 6.875
(4) and officials and trainees who attend training sessions under s. 7.15 (1) (e) or 7.25
(5) may be compensated by the municipality where they serve at the option of the
municipality.

**SECTION 59.** 7.15 (1) (L) of the statutes is amended to read:

7.15 (1) (L) Compile and, no later than 7 days after each general election,
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6.55 (2) (b) and (c) 1. and 6.86 (3) (a) 2. who presented valid drivers’ licenses issued by other states. The clerk shall withhold access to the lists from inspection or copying under s. 19.35 (1).

SECTION 60.

7.30 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

7.30 (2) (a) Only election officials appointed under this section or s. 6.875 may conduct an election. Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph and in ss. 7.15 (1) (k) and 7.52 (1) (b), each election official shall be a qualified elector of the ward or wards, or the election district, for which the polling place is established. A special registration deputy who is appointed under s. 6.55 (6) or an election official who is appointed under this section to fill a vacancy under par. (b) need not be a resident of the ward or wards, or the election district, but shall be a resident of the municipality, except that if a municipal clerk or deputy clerk serves as a registration deputy or is appointed to fill a vacancy under par. (b), the clerk or deputy clerk need not be a resident of the municipality, but shall be a resident of the state. No more than 2 individuals holding the office of clerk or deputy clerk may serve without regard to municipal residency in any municipality at any election. Special registration deputies who are appointed under s. 6.55 (6) may be appointed to serve more than one polling place. All officials appointed under this section shall be able to read and write the English language, be capable, and be of good understanding, and may not be a candidate for any office to be voted for at an election at which they serve. In 1st class cities, they may hold no public office other than notary public. Except as authorized under subs. (1) (b) and (4) (c), all inspectors shall be affiliated with one of the 2 recognized political parties which received the largest number of votes for president, or governor in nonpresidential general election years, in the ward or combination of wards served by the polling place at the last election. Excluding
the inspector who may be appointed under sub. (1) (b), the party which received the largest number of votes is entitled to one more inspector than the party receiving the next largest number of votes at each polling place. Election officials appointed under this section may serve the electors of more than one ward where wards are combined under s. 5.15 (6) (b). If a municipality is not divided into wards, the ward requirements in this paragraph apply to the municipality at large.

**SECTION 61.** 7.315 (1) (a) and (b) 1. of the statutes are amended to read:

7.315 (1) (a) The board shall, by rule, prescribe the contents of the training that municipal clerks must provide to inspectors, other than chief inspectors, to special voting deputies appointed under s. 6.875, and to special registration deputies appointed under ss. 6.26 and 6.55 (6).

(b) 1. Each inspector other than a chief inspector and each special voting deputy appointed under s. 6.875 and special registration deputy appointed under s. 6.26 or 6.55 (6) shall view or attend at least one training program every 2 years. Except as provided in subd. 2., no individual may serve as an inspector, other than a chief inspector, as a special voting deputy under s. 6.875, or as a special registration deputy under s. 6.26 or 6.55 (6) at any election unless the individual has completed training for that election provided by the municipal clerk pursuant to rules promulgated under par. (a) within 2 years of the date of the election.

**SECTION 62.** 7.37 (13) of the statutes is amended to read:

7.37 (13) CLOSING OF POLLS. For each polling place, the municipal clerk shall designate an official of the municipality who shall position himself or herself at the end of the line of individuals waiting to vote, if any at the time that the polls officially close. The official may be an inspector or special registration deputy appointed under s. 6.55 (6) who serves at that polling place, an employee of the municipal clerk or a
police officer. Only individuals in line ahead of the official shall be permitted to vote under s. 6.78 (4).

**SECTION 63.** 12.13 (3) (v) of the statutes is amended to read:

12.13 (3) (v) Corroborate any information offered by a proposed elector for the purpose of permitting the person to register to vote, to transfer his or her registration or to vote in any election, knowing such information to be false.

**SECTION 64.** 17.29 of the statutes is amended to read:

17.29 **Effect of chapter.** The provisions of this chapter supersede all contrary provisions in either the general law or in special acts, except ss. 6.26 (2) (b), 6.28 (2) (b), 6.55 (6), 6.875, and 7.30 relating to appointed election officials and ch. 21 relating to the military staff of the governor and to officers of the Wisconsin national guard; and shall govern all offices whether created by general law or special act, unless otherwise specially provided.

**SECTION 65. Initial applicability.**

(1) This act first applies with respect to the 2009 spring primary election.

**SECTION 66. Effective date.**

(1) This act takes effect on January 1, 2009.

(END)