March 15, 2012 – Introduced by Representatives ROYS, BERCEAU, C. TAYLOR, TURNER and YOUNG, cosponsored by Senators LASSA and TAYLOR. Referred to Committee on Election and Campaign Reform.

AN ACT to create 12.09 (4) of the statutes; relating to: intimidation or harassment of recall petition signers.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill prohibits any person from intimidating or harassing another person because that person signs or is attempting to sign a recall petition. Violators are guilty of a Class I felony and may be fined not more than $10,000 or imprisoned for not more than three years and six months, or both. No similar prohibition exists currently.

Because this bill creates a new crime or revises a penalty for an existing crime, the Joint Review Committee on Criminal Penalties may be requested to prepare a report concerning the proposed penalty and the costs or savings that are likely to result if the bill is enacted.

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

SECTION 1. 12.09 (4) of the statutes is created to read:

12.09 (4) No person may intimidate or harass another person because that person signs or is attempting to sign a recall petition.