



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2013 Wisconsin Act 155
[2013 Assembly Bill 89]

**Method of Reporting
Election Returns**

State law requires municipalities with a population of 35,000 or more to report all election returns by ward, even when multiple wards are combined into one polling place for voting.

2013 Wisconsin Act 155 allows a municipality with a population of 35,000 or more to combine election returns for any ward having a population of 20 or less with returns for any adjacent ward, if the total population of the combined wards does not exceed the applicable population range limits for wards in that municipality. If returns are maintained only for combined wards, the municipality must report separate results for each separate ballot required at a Spring primary, Spring election, partisan primary, or general election. The Act also provides a method by which a municipal clerk may estimate a ward population for purposes of combining election returns when the ward population cannot be determined from census results.

Effective date: March 29, 2014. The Act first applies with respect to reporting of election returns for elections held on March 29, 2014.

Prepared by: Jessica Karls-Ruplinger, Senior Staff Attorney

April 3, 2014

JKR:jb;jal

This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov>.