



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

**2013 Assembly Joint
Resolution 48**

**Assembly Substitute
Amendment 1**

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Contact: Anna Henning, Staff Attorney (266-0292)

2013 Assembly Joint Resolution 48 proposes a constitutional amendment to remove the Offices of Secretary of State and State Treasurer from the Wisconsin Constitution.

2013 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 48

2013 Assembly Joint Resolution 48 proposes an amendment to the Wisconsin Constitution, upon first consideration, that would do all of the following:

- Eliminate the constitutional Office of the Secretary of State.
- Eliminate the constitutional Office of the State Treasurer.
- If the Office of Secretary of State is eliminated, replace that position in the line for gubernatorial succession with the Attorney General.
- If either the Office of the Secretary of State or the Office of the State Treasurer is eliminated, replace that position on the Bureau of Commissioners of Public Lands (BCPL) with the Lieutenant Governor.
- If both the Office of the Secretary of State and the Office of the State Treasurer are eliminated, replace those positions on the BCPL with the Lieutenant Governor and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction (State Superintendent).
- If the Office of State Treasurer is eliminated, change the process of making annual interest payments on the purchase of school or university lands that were not paid at the time of the sale such that these annual interest payments be payable as provided by law, rather than to the State Treasurer.

The joint resolution also specifies that the following two ballot questions should be posed to the voters for ratification:

- “Shall the office of secretary of state be deleted from the constitution?”.
- “Shall the office of state treasurer be deleted from the constitution?”.

ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 1

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 makes only those changes included in Assembly Joint Resolution 48 that relate to deleting the Office of the State Treasurer from the Wisconsin Constitution. Specifically, the substitute amendment proposes an amendment to the Wisconsin Constitution that would do all of the following:

- Eliminate the constitutional Office of the State Treasurer.
- If the Office of the State Treasurer is eliminated, replace that position on the BCPL with the Lieutenant Governor.
- If the Office of State Treasurer is eliminated, change the process of making annual interest payments on the purchase of school or university lands that were not paid at the time of the sale such that these annual interest payments be payable as provided by law, rather than to the State Treasurer.

The substitute amendment does not provide specific ballot questions to be posed to the voters for ratification.¹

JOINT RESOLUTION HISTORY

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 to 2013 Assembly Joint Resolution 48 was introduced by Representative Schraa on January 15, 2014. On February 6, 2014, the Assembly Committee on State Affairs and Government Operations voted to recommend adoption of the amendment on a vote of Ayes, 10; Noes, 4. On the same day, the committee voted to recommend the adoption of the joint resolution, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 9; Noes, 5.

On February 11, 2014, the Assembly adopted Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 on a voice vote. The Assembly adopted the joint resolution, as amended, on the same day on a vote of Ayes, 67; Noes, 32.

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¹ Legislative procedure directs that ballot questions be included on a joint resolution for second consideration. [Joint Rule 57 (1).]