



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2017 Assembly Bill 153

Senate Amendment 1

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2017 ASSEMBLY BILL 153

Assembly Bill 153¹ makes several changes relating to recounts of elections. The bill: (1) limits which candidates may request a recount by requiring a candidate to be within a specified vote margin of a leading candidate in order to request a recount; (2) shortens the deadline for requesting a recount in presidential elections by two business days; (3) allows costs incurred by the Elections Commission to be calculated into the recount fee; (4) extends the time period for a petitioner to pay any outstanding recount fee balance owed and the time period for a clerk to refund any recount fee overpayment; and (5) provides county boards of canvassers with an additional day to convene and begin a recount.

SENATE AMENDMENT 1

Senate Amendment 1 retains the changes made by the bill, but also increases the per diem amount for members of the Elections Commission and the Ethics Commission. Under current law, a member of the Elections Commission or the Ethics Commission receives a per diem of \$27 for each day on which the member attends or participates by audio or video conference call in a meeting of the member's commission.

Senate Amendment 1 increases the per diem to \$115.

¹ Assembly Bill 153, as described in this memorandum, is the version passed by the Assembly. On June 21, 2017, the Assembly adopted Assembly Amendment 1 to the bill and passed the bill, as amended, on voice votes.

BILL HISTORY

Senate Amendment 1 was offered by Senator Fitzgerald. On November 7, 2017, the Senate adopted the amendment on a voice vote and concurred in the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 20; Noes, 13.

JKR:ksm