2017 ASSEMBLY BILL 332

May 19, 2017 - Introduced by Representatives THIESFELDT, SCHRAA, NOVAK, SPIROS, GENRICH, SKOWRONSKI and BALLWEG, cosponsored by Senators FEYEN and OLSEN. Referred to Committee on Campaigns and Elections.

AN ACT to renumber and amend 8.10 (3) (km); and to create 8.10 (3) (km) 2.

and 8.10 (3s) of the statutes; relating to: the signature requirement for nomination of candidates to school board in school districts that contain territory lying within a second class city.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill permits the annual meeting of a common or union high school district or the school board of a school district to adopt a resolution to reduce the number of signatures required on nomination papers submitted by candidates for school district officer. Current law requires candidates for an office that is filled at the spring election, including candidates for school board officer of some school districts, to submit nomination papers signed by a certain number of electors in order to be eligible to be placed on the ballot. Currently, a candidate for school district officer in a school district that contains any portion of a second class city must submit nomination papers signed by not less than 100 nor more than 200 electors.

This bill permits the number of signatures that must be obtained to be reduced by resolution to not less than 20 and not more than 100 if the school district territory lying within the second class city or cities is less than or equal to 10 percent of the school district’s territory. Once the territory lying within the second class city or cities is more than 10 percent of the school district’s territory, the number of signatures required returns to not less than 100 nor more than 200.

Also under the bill, the requirement of a candidate for school district officer to obtain between 100 and 200 signatures first applies in the second spring election that
follows the event that causes a school district to contain territory lying within a second class city.

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

**SECTION 1.** 8.10 (3) (km) of the statutes is renumbered 8.10 (3) (km) 1. and amended to read:

8.10 (3) (km) 1. For Except as provided in subd. 2. and subject to sub. (3s), for school district officer in any school district which contains territory lying within a 2nd class city, not less than 100 nor more than 200 electors.

**SECTION 2.** 8.10 (3) (km) 2. of the statutes is created to read:

8.10 (3) (km) 2. For a school district officer in any school district described in subd. 1., not less than 20 and not more than 100 signatures if the annual meeting or the school board of the school district adopts a resolution to reduce the number of required signatures and if, on the date that the annual meeting or school board acts under this subdivision, the territory of the school district lying within one or more 2nd class cities is less than or equal to 10 percent of the territory of the school district.

**SECTION 3.** 8.10 (3s) of the statutes is created to read:

8.10 (3s) (a) For a school district that does not contain any territory lying within a 2nd class city on the effective date of this subsection .... [LRB inserts date], the signature requirement for school district officer under sub. (3) (km) 1. first applies to a candidate for the office of school district officer filled in the 2nd spring election that follows the effective date of the event that causes the school district to have territory that lies within a 2nd class city.

(b) For a school district that has, by resolution, reduced the number of signatures required on nomination papers as permitted under sub. (3) (km) 2., the
signature requirement for school district officer under sub. (3) (km) 1. first applies
to a candidate for the office of school district officer filed in the 2nd spring election
that follows the date of the event that causes the territory of the school district lying
within one or more 2nd class cities to be greater than 10 percent of the territory of
the school district.