
Wisconsin Legislative Council

AMENDMENT MEMO



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2021 Senate Bill 178

Senate Amendment 1

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Senate Bill 178 makes various changes to elections administration, recall, and recount absentee voting. One such change empowers the Wisconsin Elections Commission to issue any temporary orders of limited effect it deems necessary to carry out its powers and duties under a particular statute regarding complaints filed against election officials. Another change under the bill eliminates the requirement for the Elections Commission to make rules to standardize election notices.

SENATE AMENDMENT 1

Senate Amendment 1 replaces the language empowering the Elections Commission to issue any temporary orders it deems necessary under the particular statute. In its place, the amendment authorizes the commission to issue a preliminary order of limited duration to an election official to require the official to conform his or her conduct to the law, restrain the official from taking action inconsistent with the law, or correct an action or decision inconsistent with the law.

Senate Amendment 1 also deletes the provision exempting the commission from making rules regarding election notices, and instead, maintains current law.

BILL HISTORY

Senate Amendment 1 was offered by Senators Stroebel and Bernier on April 12, 2021. On April 13, 2021, the Senate Committee on Elections, Election Process Reform, and Ethics recommended adoption of the amendment and passage of the bill, as amended, on votes of Ayes, 5; Noes, 0.

KBO:ksm