
Wisconsin Legislative Council

AMENDMENT MEMO



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2023 Senate Bill 334

Senate Amendment 1

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Senate Bill 334 requires the dissolution of a candidate's or elected official's candidate committee if that candidate or official is convicted of a campaign finance or election fraud felony. Under the bill, if a court adjudges a candidate or elected official guilty in a criminal action, the court action must: (1) order termination of the individual's candidate committee; (2) order the committee to return its residual funds to donors or donate them to the common school fund; and (3) appoint a new treasurer for the candidate committee.

SENATE AMENDMENT 1

Senate Amendment 1 modifies how a candidate committee must return or donate funds when a court orders the termination of the committee, and requires courts to give notice to the Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC). The amendment requires that a terminated candidate committee must pay its outstanding debts before returning residual funds to donors or donating them to the common school fund.

Senate Amendment 1 also prohibits the committee from returning any contributions made from a candidate's or official's personal funds to the committee, and prohibits a candidate, official, or previous treasurer from accessing funds in the committee's depository account. Finally, the amendment requires a court that terminates a candidate committee and appoints a new treasurer to notify WEC of its actions.

BILL HISTORY

Senator Knodl offered Senate Amendment 1 on November 6, 2023. On November 8, 2023, the Senate Committee on Shared Revenue, Elections, and Consumer Protection voted to adopt Senate Amendment 1 and recommend passage of Senate Bill 334, as amended, on votes of Ayes, 5; Noes, 0.

For a full history of the bill, visit the Legislature's [bill history page](#).

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