
Wisconsin Legislative Council

ACT MEMO



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2025 Wisconsin Act 7 [2025 Senate Bill 126]

Delayed Effective Date for Campaign Finance Filing Changes

2025 WISCONSIN ACT 7

2025 Wisconsin Act 7 is trailer legislation that delays the effective date of certain provisions contained within 2023 Wisconsin Act 126, and expands protection of the personally identifiable information of election officials provided by 2023 Wisconsin Act 126.

Contents of Prior Act

2023 Wisconsin Act 126 addressed two topics: (1) campaign finance filings; and (2) protections for election officials. Candidates for state office and committees that support or oppose those candidates register and file campaign finance reports with the Wisconsin Ethics Commission, while candidates for local office and committees that support or oppose local candidates or referendums register and file reports with local clerks. The prior act changes campaign finance requirements so that, as of July 1, 2025, all state and local candidates and committees must register and file campaign finance reports with the Ethics Commission.

2023 Wisconsin Act 126 also created protections for election officials and election registration officials (hereinafter, “election officials”) that ensure privacy of their personal information, prevent negative employment actions for reporting election fraud, and create a special battery crime for actions against them. As part of these protections, the prior act shields personally identifiable information of election officials from disclosure under the Public Records Law. Effective on July 1, 2025, a governmental authority that possesses an election official’s information may only provide access to the official’s name, city, and state, and cannot provide access to other personally identifiable information.

Changes Made by 2025 Wisconsin Act 7

2025 Wisconsin Act 7 delays the effective date of 2023 Wisconsin Act 126 provisions that transfer responsibility for receiving candidate and committee registrations and campaign finance reports from local clerks to the Wisconsin Ethics Commission from July 1, 2025 until December 1, 2027.

2025 Wisconsin Act 7 also makes a change to the protection of personally identifiable information of election officials. The act extends protection to the information of a former election official (other than name, city, and state), in addition to shielding information of a current election official. 2025 Wisconsin Act 7 also provides that personally identifiable information is exempt from disclosure only if the election official submits a written request to the governmental authority requesting that the information be kept confidential. Unlike the other provisions impacted by 2025 Wisconsin Act 7, the election official protection changes take effect on July 1, 2025.

Effective date: June 11, 2025

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

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