

WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2005 Wisconsin Act 146 [2005 Senate Bill 362]

Interstate Toll Bridges (Revisor's Bill)

2005 Wisconsin Act 146, proposed as a revision bill by the Revisor of Statutes, eliminates ambiguities in the statutes addressing interstate toll bridges by doing the following:

- The Act deletes a sentence that was rendered obsolete by 1999 Wisconsin Act 182. The sentence requires a municipal referendum for an interstate toll bridge to be held at a special election *if* no general or regular municipal election is held within a "stated period." The "stated period" had a starting and ending time ("not less than 10 nor more than 40 days from the date of filing") that the subsequent legislation replaced with "not sooner than 42 days from the date of filing" the referendum petition. Because there will always be a general or regular municipal election at some point "not sooner than 42 days from the date of filing" the petition, the sentence deleted by the Act could no longer have been applicable.
- The Act clarifies that the referendum for an interstate toll bridge must be held at "the next" general or regular municipal election that is held not sooner than 42 days from the date of filing the petition. By replacing "any" with "the next," the Act is restoring some sort of limit on how far into the future the referendum for a toll bridge can be held. The limit of "not less than 10 nor more than 40 days from the date of filing" had existed prior to the change under 1999 Wisconsin Act 182 to the open-ended period ("not sooner than 42 days from the date of filing" the petition) discussed in the previous paragraph.

Effective Date: The Act takes effect on April 5, 2006.

Prepared by: Mary Offerdahl, Staff Attorney April 10, 2006

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: http://www.legis.state.wi.us/.