



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2013 Assembly Bill 202

Assembly Amendment 2

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Assembly Bill 202

Assembly Bill 202 relates to election observers at polling places and other locations where voting occurs. The bill requires the chief inspector and the municipal clerk to designate an observation area for election observers that is within three feet of the table where electors announce their name and address to be issued a voter number and within three feet of the table where a person may register to vote. The bill also permits the chief inspector and the municipal clerk to allow an election observer to sit at either table, provided that the observer cannot observe confidential information. Additionally, the bill requires an election observer to print his or her name, sign, and date a log maintained at the polling place.

Assembly Amendment 2

Assembly Amendment 2 alters the location of a designated observation area and eliminates the ability of an observer to sit at the table with the poll workers. Specifically, the amendment provides that designated observation areas must be “not less than 3 feet from nor more than 8 feet from” the table where voters announce their name and address to be issued a voter number or the table where voters may register to vote. The amendment also deletes the provision under which a chief inspector or clerk may permit an observer to sit at either table.

Bill History

Assembly Amendment 2 was offered by Representative Pridemore on August 29, 2013. On October 9, 2013, the Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections voted to recommend adoption of the amendment on a vote of Ayes, 6; Noes, 3. The committee then voted to recommend passage of Assembly Bill 202, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 6; Noes, 3.

KBO:ksm