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2003 SENATE BILL 228

August 13, 2003 – Introduced by Senators Reynolds, S. Fitzgerald and Schultz, cosponsored by Representatives Jensen, Freese, Bies, Gunderson, Gundrum, Seratti, Ainsworth and F. Lasee. Referred to Committee on Education, Ethics and Elections.

AN ACT to renumber 121.007; to amend 121.007 (title); and to create 66.0145 and 121.007 (2) of the statutes; relating to: use of local governmental resources to promote or defeat a referendum.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill explicitly prohibits any local governmental unit from using its funds or other resources to advocate for the approval or disapproval of a referendum question submitted by any local governmental unit to the electors of the governmental unit.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. 66.0145 of the statutes is created to read:

66.0145 Spending on referenda. (1) In this section, "local governmental unit" means a political subdivision of this state, a special purpose district in this state, an agency or corporation of a political subdivision or special purpose district, or a combination or subunit of any of the foregoing.

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(2) A local governmental unit may not use local governmental unit funds or
other local governmental unit resources to advocate for the approval or disapproval
of any referendum question submitted to the local governmental unit's electors by
the local governmental unit or by any other local governmental unit.
Section 2. 121.007 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:
121.007 (title) Use of state aid school district funds; exemption from
execution.
Section 3. 121.007 of the statutes is renumbered 121.007 (1).
Section 4. 121.007 (2) of the statutes is created to read:
121.007 (2) A school board may not use school district funds or other school
district resources to advocate for the approval or disapproval of any referendum
question submitted to school district electors by the school board or by any other local
governmental unit, as defined in s. 66.0145 (1).

(END)