LRB-4574/1 JK:ahe

2017 ASSEMBLY BILL 925

February 9, 2018 - Introduced by Representatives HORLACHER, BERNIER and BRANDTJEN. Referred to Committee on Campaigns and Elections.

AN ACT *to amend* 6.875 (3) (b) of the statutes; **relating to:** the duties of special voting deputies with regard to retirement homes that are part of a multiple-use facility.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a municipal clerk may dispatch special voting deputies to a residential care facility or qualified retirement home so that the occupants of the facility or home may cast an absentee ballot in person with the special voting deputies rather than vote in person at the appropriate polling place or request and complete an absentee ballot by mail. Current law provides that the occupants of a retirement home that is not a qualified retirement home may vote in person at the appropriate polling place or request and complete an absentee ballot by mail. Under current law, a retirement home is a facility occupied as a primary residence by ten or more unrelated individuals. A qualified retirement home is a retirement home that has a significant number of occupants who lack adequate transportation to the polling place, need assistance in voting, are aged 60 or over, or are indefinitely confined. Current law also requires that if a retirement home is located within a municipality on the same grounds as one or more residential care facilities to which special voting deputies are dispatched the management of the retirement home shall provide the names and addresses of the home occupants to the clerk so that the special voting deputies may verify which electors are eligible to cast absentee ballots in person with the deputies.

This bill provides that if a retirement home that is not a qualified retirement home is located within a municipality as part of a multiple-use facility consisting of

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one or more qualified retirement homes or residential care facilities to which special voting deputies are dispatched, the management of the retirement home must provide the clerk with the names and addresses of the occupants of the home. The clerk then provides the special voting deputies with the names and addresses of the verified residents who are eligible to cast absentee ballots in person with the deputies.

For further information see the *local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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

Section 1. 6.875 (3) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

6.875 (3) (b) An occupant of a retirement home that is not a qualified retirement home is not eligible to cast a ballot with a special voting deputy, as provided under sub. (4), but may vote in person at the polling place serving his or her residence or may apply for and cast an absentee ballot at the election in the same manner as provided for other electors of the municipality where he or she resides. If a retirement home that is not a qualified retirement home is located within a municipality on the same grounds as as part of a multiple-use facilities to which the municipal clerk or board of election commissioners of the municipality dispatches special voting deputies to conduct voting at an election, the municipal clerk or board of election commissioners shall obtain from the management of the retirement home the names and addresses of the occupants of the home. The municipal clerk or board of election commissioners shall then provide the special voting deputies with the names and addresses to the special voting deputies to verify which of the verified residents who are eligible to cast their ballots with the special voting deputies.

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