



State of Wisconsin  
2019 - 2020 LEGISLATURE

LRB-0817/1  
MLJ:kjf

## 2019 SENATE BILL 238

May 23, 2019 - Introduced by Senators RINGHAND and NASS, cosponsored by Representatives LOUDENBECK, KOLSTE, SPREITZER and VRUWINK. Referred to Committee on Insurance, Financial Services, Government Oversight and Courts.

1     **AN ACT to amend** 753.26 of the statutes; **relating to:** records retained by circuit  
2     courts.

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*Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Under current law, with the exception of certain circuit court branches of the Rock County circuit court, circuit court records are required to be kept at the courthouse offices located at the county seat. At one time there were circuit court branches located in Beloit, which is not the county seat for Rock County. There are no longer any circuit court branches located in Beloit.

This bill eliminates the exception for Rock County to reflect the fact that all branches of the Rock County circuit court are now located in Janesville, which is the county seat for Rock County.

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

3     **SECTION 1.** 753.26 of the statutes is amended to read:  
4     **753.26 Office and records to be kept at county seat.** ~~Except in branches~~  
5     Nos. 4, 5, and 7 of the circuit court for Rock County, every Every circuit judge in this  
6     state shall maintain in his or her office, at the county seat of the county in which the

**SENATE BILL 238****SECTION 1**

1 judge holds office, all of the books, papers, and records of the court. The office and  
2 the books, papers, and records of the circuit judge shall at all reasonable times be  
3 open to access and inspection by any person having any business with the books,  
4 papers, and records of the court, except as otherwise provided by law. Originals of  
5 ~~judgments or orders made under circuit court jurisdiction of branches Nos. 4, 5, and~~  
6 ~~7 of the Rock County circuit court in Beloit, shall be kept at the county seat.~~

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**(END)**