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State Senator - Senate District 28

**Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections
Senate Bill 267 Testimony
January 22, 2014**

Voter registration applications currently contain a space election officials are supposed to record the type of proof of residence used by the registrant. However, this is not specifically required by state statute, and is not always done in practice. The failure to do so makes investigation and enforcement of voting integrity laws difficult.

The Wisconsin Constitution provides that "Every US citizen age 18 or older *who is a resident of an election district in this state is a qualified elector of that district.*"

SB 267 requires that at the time proof of residence is required, the type of proof, the issuing institution, and an associated unique account number be recorded on the registration application. Recording this information ensures the basic Constitutional requirement, that qualified electors are residents of the district, is satisfied.

We have heard concerns about providing a unique account number and worked with Representative Bernier on an amendment to allow the last 4 digits of the account number to be included.

Current law does not guarantee that proof of residence is properly documented. The failure to do so makes investigation and enforcement of voting integrity laws difficult. This bill ensures information is recorded.

This bill ensures proof of residence is properly documented on the registration form. The Government Accountability Board (GAB) is required to include in the Statewide Voter Registration System the type of proof of residency submitted by the voter.

This common sense bill enforces the Wisconsin State Constitution and ensures that qualified electors are permitted to vote in the appropriate election district. SB 267 will provide a paper trail in case of controversy, and ensure that poll workers pay close attention to the documentation shown to them by registrants. This small and simple step will go a long way to ensure the integrity of our elections.

Thank you for your attention to SB 267.



Bill Position
University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents
2013-14 Legislative Session

SB 267

Identifying Documents for Voter Proof of Residence

LEGISLATION

SB 267

(Lazich/Bernier) Current law requires certain voters to provide proof of residence when registering to vote and specifies the documents that may be used as proof of residence. Current law further provides that election officials must record certain information relating to proof of residence on the poll list or separate list. Election officials must record the type of identifying document submitted and, if the document includes a number which applies only to the individual holding that document (e.g., a bank account number), the officials must also record that number on the poll list or separate list.

With the adoption of Senate Amendment 2, a number of changes were made to SB 267. The amended bill provides that the clerk or other individual authorized to accept a voter registration form must also record the name of the entity or institution that issued the identifying document submitted as proof of residence, in addition to recording the type of identifying document submitted.

The amended bill also eliminates the requirement that election officials record on the poll list or separate list a number that applies only to the individual holding the document submitted as proof of residence. In addition, this information will only be recorded on the voter's registration form and not on the poll list or separate list.

Finally, Senate Amendment 2 specifies that voter registration forms must include a space where the clerk "shall" record the type of document submitted as proof of residence, the name of the entity or institution that issued the document and a number that applies only to the individual holding the document, if the document includes such a number."

Introduced: 8/21/2013

UW SYSTEM POSITION

AMEND:

Currently, UW System student identification cards presented along with supplemental documentation (i.e. fee payment receipt) can be submitted as proof of residence for voting purposes. Under this bill, the unique numbers on campus student identification cards must be recorded on the voter registration form. This collection and public disclosure of student ID numbers raises serious privacy concerns.

Four UW System campuses publish 16-digit credit/debit card numbers on student ID cards that can be used to make purchases with those accounts. Additionally, most student ID card numbers allow students to access 1) financial information, such as tuition, financial aid, campus stored value accounts, dining accounts, and bookstore accounts, and 2) academic information, such as, transcripts, library records, email, and web services.

Students at some UW institutions can use their student ID card numbers along with their names to access certain sensitive information via the telephone. If given access to a student ID card number and a student name, third parties would be able to reset student passwords at some UW institutions to get access to that information electronically. At some other institutions, resetting a password would require a date of birth, which is frequently available online, and/or the last four digits of the social security number.

The disclosure of student ID numbers could compromise student privacy, increase identity theft, and increase administrative costs to deal with these issues. **Therefore, the UW System is requesting that SB 267 be AMENDED** to either:

- **Exclude the collection or disclosure of student ID numbers, or**
- **Permit only the collection and disclosure of the last four digits of a student ID number.**