



ADAM JARCHOW

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 28TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Testimony on **AB 392** – Relating to: methods of voting by members of a cooperative
Assembly Committee on Energy and Utilities
Thursday, October 22, 2015 – 10:00 A.M.

Thank you for holding a hearing on AB 392.

First, I will give you a little bit of background on this bill and why it is important to cooperatives in Wisconsin. This bill was brought to our office by the cooperatives themselves. This is a change that they welcome and feel would aid in their mission.

In 2010, Act 387 allowed for members of cooperatives to vote electronically in cooperative elections to vote on motions. However, a drafting error excluded electronic voting in the elections for the election or removal of directors of a cooperative. By making this simple fix to the law, it allows a member of a cooperative, if they so choose, to vote in all elections electronically.

To be clear, this is not a mandate nor a suggestion that cooperatives use electronic voting in their director elections, however it is just another option, which under current law, is illegal.

I hope that you would agree and support this bill to fix the current law to make it work as it was intended.