



CORY TOMCZYK

STATE SENATOR • 29TH SENATE DISTRICT

SB 465

Senate Committee on Government Operations
Thursday, February 1, 2024

In the November, 2022 election, Wisconsin voters went to the polls to elect their representatives. At the time, voters were under the impression that the candidates they chose would go on to fulfill the office they were elected to for their entire term. Unfortunately, Wisconsin's Secretary of State chose to resign just 76 DAYS into his four-year term after serving for 42 years. At that point, the Governor was able to appoint his replacement, undercutting the ability of the electorate to choose the Secretary of State for the remainder of the term – over three and a half years. The Governor simply was able to hand-pick a replacement of his choosing without any say from the voters.

Under SB 465, if an executive branch vacancy occurs on or after January 1st of a year in which there is a regularly scheduled election for said office, the vacancy would be filled by a nomination of the Governor and then to the State Senate for a confirmation vote.

If the vacancy were to occur prior to January 1st of the year of the regularly scheduled election for said office, the Governor must call a special election to fill the remainder of the term.

SB 465 is about good government. The residents of Wisconsin choose who represents them in the executive branch by going to the polls, NOT by the Governor picking one of his friends.