CHAPTER 14
CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICES AND INTERSTATE BODIES

SUBCHAPTER I
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

14.01 Office of the governor; creation. There is created an office of the governor under the direction and supervision of the governor.

History: 1977 c. 29 s. 1649.

14.015 Same; attached boards and commissions. (1) DISABILITY BOARD. There is created a disability board which is attached to the office of the governor under s. 15.03. Where not in conflict with s. 17.025, s. 15.07 applies to the disability board. The disability board shall consist of the governor, the chief justice of the supreme court, the speaker of the assembly, the president of the senate, the majority leader of the assembly, the minority leader of the Senate, the governor's nonstatutory committees, the secretary of health services, the commissioner of insurance, the secretary of corrections, the secretary of transportation and the chairperson of the pharmacy examining board, or their designees; a representative of the controlled substances board; a representative of any governor's committee or commission created under this subchapter to study law enforcement issues; 6 members, one of whom is a consumer representing the public at large, with demonstrated professional, research or personal interest in alcohol and other drug abuse problems, appointed for 4-year terms; a representative of an organization or agency which is a direct provider of services to alcoholics and other drug abusers; a member of the Wisconsin County Human Service Association, Inc., who is nominated by that association; and 2 members of each house of the legislature, representing the majority party and the minority party in each house, chosen as are the members of standing committees in their respective houses. Section 15.09 applies to the council.

(4) COUNCIL ON MILITARY AND STATE RELATIONS. There is created in the office of the governor a council on military and state relations. The council shall assist the governor with working with the state's military installations, commands and communities, state agencies, and economic development professionals to develop and implement strategies designed to enhance those military installations. The council shall advise and assist the governor on issues related to the location of military installations in this state. The council shall assist and cooperate with state agencies to determine how those agencies can better serve military communities and military families. The council shall assist the efforts of military families and their support groups regarding quality-of-life issues for service men and women, their spouses, and their dependents. The chairperson of the council shall be elected by the members of the council. The council shall consist of the following:

(a) A representative of the department of military affairs.

14.017 Same; councils. (2) STATE COUNCIL ON ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG ABUSE. There is created in the office of the governor a state council on alcohol and other drug abuse consisting of the governor, the attorney general, the state superintendent of public instruction, the secretary of health services, the commissioner of health, the secretary of corrections, the secretary of transportation and the chairperson of the pharmacy examining board, or their designees; a representative of the controlled substances board; a representative of any governor's committee or commission created under this subchapter to study law enforcement issues; 6 members, one of whom is a consumer representing the public at large, with demonstrated professional, research or personal interest in alcohol and other drug abuse problems, appointed for 4-year terms; a representative of an organization or agency which is a direct provider of services to alcoholics and other drug abusers; a member of the Wisconsin County Human Service Association, Inc., who is nominated by that association; and 2 members of each house of the legislature, representing the majority party and the minority party in each house, chosen as are the members of standing committees in their respective houses. Section 15.09 applies to the council.
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(b) A representative of Fort McCoy, Monroe County.

c) Two members of each house of the legislature, representing the majority party and minority party in each house, chosen as are members of the standing committees of that house.

d) A representative of the office of the governor.

(6) COUNCIL ON VETERANS EMPLOYMENT. (a) There is created in the office of the governor a council on veterans employment consisting of all of the following:

1. The secretary of administration or his or her designee, who shall serve as chairperson of the council.

2. The administrator of the division of personnel management in the department of administration or his or her designee.

3. The secretary of veterans affairs or his or her designee.

4. The secretary of workforce development or his or her designee.

5. The president of the University of Wisconsin System or his or her designee.

(b) The council shall advise and assist the governor and state agencies with the recruitment and employment of veterans, including specifically veterans with a service-connected disability rating, in order to increase veteran employment in state government. To this end, the council shall do all of the following:

1. Identify program areas of state government in which the employment of veterans can be increased.

2. Identify state agency positions that have duties especially suitable to the skills and work experiences of veterans.

3. Ensure that state agencies develop training programs to assist veterans in acquiring the skills necessary to hold state agency positions.

4. Ensure that state agencies develop training and counseling programs for veterans to assist them in their transition from military service to state government employment.

5. Ensure that the division of personnel management in the department of administration develops training programs for human resources staff to increase the recruitment and employment of veterans in state agencies.

6. Prepare a model strategy for state agencies to increase the employment of qualified veterans, which includes recommendations to streamline the process of employing qualified veterans with a service-connected disability rating.

7. Promote state government employment as a viable post-military career opportunity for veterans.

8. Identify and promote to state agencies the valuable and transferrable skills of veterans.

(c) 1. The department of workforce development shall provide staff support to the council.

2. The department of workforce development shall make the determinations under s. 230.042 (3) (a) and (4) (a) and shall assist the council in making its determinations under s. 230.042 (3) (b) and (4) (b).

3. The council may establish separate goals that are applicable to a state agency for the hiring of qualified veterans or veterans with a service-connected disability rating that are in lieu of the goals specified under s. 230.042 (3) and (4).

(d) Annually, on or before September 1, the secretary of the department of administration shall submit a report to the governor on the activities of the council in assisting state agencies with the recruitment and employment of veterans. The report shall include current information on the number of veterans holding permanent state government positions and the council’s recommendations for increasing veteran employment in state government.

History: 1977 c. 29 s. 4; 1973 c. 90; 1973 c. 39 ss. 170, 29 s. 29a s. 229; 1977 c. 1649; 1977 c. 325, 418; 1979 c. 34 s. 16; 1979 c. 221; 1983 a. 27; 1987 a. 339, 399; 1988 a. 403 s. 256; 1991 a. 211; 1993 a. 210; 1995 a. 27 ss. 48, 9116 (5); 1997 a. 27 ss. 252; 2005 a. 26; 2007 a. 20 s. 9121 (6) (a); 2011 a. 166; 2015 a. 35; 2016 a. 396; s. 35.17 correction in (2).
tions there are safeguards available to alter the policy choices made by the governor, the delegation of power to the governor is not an unconstitutional violation of the separation of powers doctrine. However, the legislature did not delegate to the governor the authority to agree to a compact of indefinite duration, which circumvents the procedural safeguards that sustain the legislature’s ability to delegate that power in the first place: the power to curtail or reclaim the delegated power by future legislative action. Panzer v. Doyle, 2004 WI 52, 271 Wis. 2d 295, 600 N.W.2d 666, 03-0910.

The governor exceeded his authority by agreeing in a compact to waive the state’s sovereign immunity, an act which he had no inherent or delegated power to undertake. Panzer v. Doyle, 2004 WI 52, 271 Wis. 2d 295, 600 N.W.2d 666, 03-0910.


14.04 Reports to legislature. At the commencement of each regular session of the legislature, the governor shall communicate to the chief clerk of each house of the legislature, for distribution to the legislature under s. 13.172 (2), the reports of all state officers, commissions, boards, and departments required by law to report to the governor, including the reports of state officers whose terms of office have expired covering the transactions in their respective offices from June 30 in the last year of their terms, and, at the time of communicating said reports, shall render to the chief clerk of each house of the legislature, for distribution to the legislature under s. 13.172 (2), a statement of all expenditures made by the governor out of any contingent fund appropriated for the contingent expenses of the office of the governor. Biennially, the governor shall submit to the chief clerk of each house of the legislature, for distribution to the legislature under s. 13.172 (2), a report on the condition of each of the public institutions of this state which are supported in whole or in part by appropriations by the state with such recommendations as deemed proper.

History: 1977 c. 29 s. 1649; 1977 c. 273; 1987 a. 186.

14.05 Inspection and investigation of institutions. The governor may visit and inspect at any time any public institution of this state which is supported in whole or in part by appropriations by the state; and, in the case of state institutions, the governor may also cause an investigation to be made of any thereof, or of any matter connected with or of any employee in any such institution, and may appoint a suitable person therefor, and shall require a written report thereof. Such investigator shall be paid not to exceed $6.50 a day for each day actually and necessarily required in performing the duties imposed, and shall be reimbursed all actual expenses thereby incurred. The cost of any such investigation shall be charged to the appropriation for the state institution under investigation.

History: 1991 a. 316.

14.06 Gifts, grants and bequests. The governor may accept gifts, grants and bequests, and may expend the proceeds to carry out the purposes for which received.

History: 1999 a. 9.

14.07 Records and documents; executive privy seal. (1) The private secretary to the governor, for purposes of authentication, is custodian of the public records and documents in the office of the governor.

(2) The executive privy seal, a written description of which is deposited in the office of the secretary of state, is the seal of the private secretary to the governor, with which all the private secretary’s official certificates shall be authenticated.

History: 1977 c. 29 s. 1649; 1991 a. 316.

14.08 Deposit of acts; notice. The governor shall deposit each legislative act enacted by the governor’s approval in the office of the secretary of state under s. 35.095 (2) (b), and shall so inform the house of origin.

History: 1981 c. 372.

14.09 Executive orders. The governor shall cause all executive orders issued to be deposited in the office of the secretary of state.

History: 1975 c. 252, 421.

Executive orders of the Wisconsin governor. 1980 WLR 333.

14.11 Legal actions and proceedings. (1) STATE PROPERTY; LEGAL PROTECTION OF. The governor, whenever in the governor’s opinion the rights, interests or property of the state are or are liable to be injuriously affected, may require the attorney general to institute and prosecute any proper action or proceeding for the redress or prevention thereof; and whenever the governor receives notice of any action or proceeding between other parties by which the rights, interests or property of the state are liable to be injuriously affected, the governor shall inform the attorney general thereof and require the attorney general to take such steps as may be necessary to protect such rights, interests, or property.

(2) EMPLOYMENT OF SPECIAL COUNSEL. (a) The governor, if in the governor’s opinion the public interest requires such action, may employ special counsel in the following cases:

1. To assist the attorney general in any action or proceeding;
2. To act instead of the attorney general in any action or proceeding, if the attorney general is in any way interested adversely to the state;
3. To defend any action instituted by the attorney general against any officer of the state;
4. To institute and prosecute an action or proceeding which the attorney general, by reason of the attorney general’s opinion as to the validity of any law, or for any other reason, deems it the duty of the attorney general to defend rather than prosecute.

(b) When special counsel is employed, a contract in writing shall be entered into between the state and such counsel, in which shall be fixed the compensation to be paid such counsel by the state. If the compensation is being determined on a contingent fee basis, the contract is subject to s. 20.9305. The contract shall be executed in behalf of the state by the governor, and shall be filed in the office of the secretary of state. Such compensation shall be charged to the special counsel appropriation in s. 20.505 (1) (d).

(c) Upon employment of special counsel, the governor shall certify the maximum amount provided in the employment contract to the secretary of administration, and direct the department to pay special counsel bills related to that case within the certified figure.


14.12 Execution of releases and satisfactions. Unless otherwise provided by law, the governor and attorney general may release or satisfy any lien or other obligation in favor of the state, upon payment by the obligor of the full amount due thereon or of the amount provided in any compromise settlement duly entered into and approved as provided by law. When such release or satisfaction is required to be under seal, the secretary of state shall affix the great seal of the state and authenticate the signatures of said officers.

14.13 Land claims against United States; receipt of payment. The governor may receive from the U.S. treasury department, from time to time, as the governor sees fit to draw for the same, the 5 percent of the net proceeds of sales of the public lands to which this state is or shall be entitled, pursuant to the act of congress approved August 6, 1846, and execute the proper vouchers therefor. When received the governor shall pay the same into the state treasury to the credit of the school fund.

History: 1991 a. 316.

14.14 Patents to railroad lands. Whenever the governor shall have executed and delivered to any railway or other corpora-
tion a patent from this state of any land inuring to such corporation under or through any grant from the United States and the laws of this state, and subsequent to the delivery of any such patent the United States shall patent or certify said land or any part thereof to this state as inuring under such grant, the governor may in the governor’s discretion execute and deliver to such corporation a new patent of said land by way of further assurance of title to the same, reciting the fact of the execution and delivery of said prior patent and the subsequent issue by the United States of a patent or certified list of the said land, and that the said new patent is made by virtue of this section and for the purposes aforesaid; and the additional patent shall be entitled to the same force and effect as a conveyance and as evidence as other state patents have by law.

History: 1991 a. 316.

14.15 Rewards. Whenever any person convicted of or charged with any felony escapes, or whenever any heinous crime has been committed, the governor may offer a reward of not to exceed $500 for the apprehension and delivery of such person or the conviction of the perpetrator of such crime. If such reward is claimed, whether by one or more persons, the governor shall finally determine to whom the same shall be paid, and, if to more than one person what portion to each, and shall certify the determination to the secretary of state. No such offer of a reward by the governor shall impose any actionable liability on the state.

History: 1991 a. 316.

14.16 Holiday proclamations. (1) Arbor and Bird Day. The governor, by proclamation, may set apart one day each year to be designated as Arbor and Bird Day, and may request its observance by all schools, colleges and other institutions by the planting of trees, the adornment of school and public grounds and by suitable exercises having for their object the advancement of the study of arboriculture, the promotion of a spirit of protection to birds and trees and the cultivation of an appreciative sentiment concerning them.

(2) Citizenship Day. The governor may also set aside, by proclamation, the 3rd Sunday in May in each year to be designated as Citizenship Day, and shall request its observance by all circuit court judges, county boards, municipalities, colleges and other institutions, by suitable exercises for all those persons who have recently become enfranchised either by naturalization or by reaching their majority on the necessity of exercising responsible, vigilant and intelligent citizenship to safeguard and maintain our recently become enfranchised either by naturalization or by court judges, county boards, municipalities, colleges and other institutions of the history of our nation and its free institutions, the month of采暖ation calling attention to the fact that November 11 is the anniversary of the armistice following World War I was concluded.

mamification, one day in each year to be observed as Labor Day.

(3) Labor Day. The governor may also set apart, by proclamation, one day in each year to be observed as Labor Day.

(4) Armistice Day. The governor shall annually issue a proclamation calling attention to the fact that November 11 is the anniversary of Armistice Day, and requesting the people throughout the state to observe by appropriate exercises the hour at which the armistice following World War I was concluded.

(5) Mother’s Day. The governor may annually proclaim the 2nd Sunday in May as Mother’s Day and urge the people and organizations to display the American flag as a public expression of love and reverence for the mothers of our state and as a symbol of a united effort to inspire better homes and closer union between the state, its homes and its sons and daughters.

(6) Gold Star Mother’s Day. The governor may annually proclaim the last Sunday in September as Gold Star Mother’s Day and call upon the people and organizations to display the American flag and hold appropriate meetings in their homes, churches and other suitable places as a public expression of love, sorrow and reverence for the gold star mothers of our state.

(7) American History Month. To emphasize the spirit of America and Americanism and to remind the citizens of this state of the history of our nation and its free institutions, the month of February in each year is designated “American History Month” and the governor is directed to annually issue a suitable proclamation for the observance thereof.

(8) Wonderful Wisconsin Week. To emphasize this state’s great assets which make it such a desirable place to live and work, to give all citizens a greater knowledge and appreciation of this state and to salute every important activity of the state, from agriculture to industry to tourism, from business to labor to recreation and from education to good government to the state’s varied products, the 3rd week in September of each year is designated “Wonderful Wisconsin Week.” The governor shall issue annually a suitable proclamation for the observance of “Wonderful Wisconsin Week.”

(9) Hire a Veteran Week. To recognize the contribution veterans have made to our society and the special needs of unemployed veterans and to encourage the hiring of unemployed veterans, the week of November that starts on Sunday and ends on Saturday in which November 11 falls is designated “Hire a Veteran Week.” The governor shall issue annually a suitable proclamation for the observance of “Hire a Veteran Week” encouraging all employers to hire veterans.

(9m) Veteran Recognition Week. To recognize the contribution and sacrifices veterans have made to our society, including those who have given their lives in service, the 7-day period that ends on November 11 is designated “Veteran Recognition Week.” The governor shall issue annually a suitable proclamation for the observance of “Veteran Recognition Week” encouraging all citizens to honor veterans during the week, emphasizing educational efforts directed at teaching students concerning the contributions and sacrifices of veterans.

(10) Prisoners of War Remembrance Day. To recognize the sacrifices of those persons who suffered captivity in foreign countries while in active service with the U.S. armed forces, April 9 of each year is designated “Prisoners of War Remembrance Day.” The governor shall issue annually a suitable proclamation for the observance of “Prisoners of War Remembrance Day” and request that some portion of the day be used for solemn contemplation on the plight of members of the U.S. armed forces who have been held prisoners of war.

(10m) POW–MIA Recognition Day. To recognize the sacrifices of those persons who suffered or suffer captivity in foreign countries while in active service with the U.S. armed forces or who are or were missing in action, the 3rd Friday of September of each year is designated “POW–MIA Recognition Day.” The governor shall issue annually a suitable proclamation for the observance of “POW–MIA Recognition Day” and request that some portion of the day be used for solemn contemplation on the plight of members of the U.S. armed forces who are or have been held prisoners of war.

(11) Purple Heart Day. The governor shall annually proclaim August 7 as Purple Heart Day and urge the people and organizations of the state to display the American flag on that day as a public expression of the recognition of those individuals who have been wounded or killed in action preserving the freedoms that all United States citizens cherish.

(12) Aldo Leopold Weekend. The governor shall annually proclaim the first full weekend in March as Aldo Leopold Weekend to honor the author of A Sand County Almanac, an internationally respected scientist and conservationist who is widely considered the father of wildlife ecology.

(12m) African American History and Cultural Heritage Month. The governor shall annually proclaim February as African American History and Cultural Heritage Month as a way to recognize and celebrate the contributions and achievements of African Americans.

(13) Medal of Honor Day. The governor shall annually proclaim March 25 as Medal of Honor Day to celebrate and honor those members of the U.S. armed forces who have been awarded the Medal of Honor for their valor in action above and beyond the
call of duty and to recognize their bravery, heroism, and sacrifice for the United States.

(14) **Gulf War Illnesses Recognition Day.** The governor shall annually proclaim January 17 as Gulf War Illnesses Recognition Day as a public expression in recognition of the members of the U.S. armed forces who suffer illnesses as a result of their patriotic service to our nation.

(15) **Korean War Armistice Day.** To recognize the Wisconsin armed forces members who courageously served during the Korean War, July 27, the date of the military armistice agreement that ended that war, is designated as the “Korean War Armistice Day.” The governor shall issue annually a suitable proclamation for the observance of “Korean War Armistice Day” and request that some portion of the day be used for solemn contemplation on the sacrifices that members of the U.S. armed forces made during that war, including the death of over 700 Wisconsin citizens.

(16) **Vietnam Veterans Day.** To recognize the 1,239 Wisconsin armed forces members who are listed on the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C., and to express pride and gratitude to the veterans of that war, March 29 is designated as the “Vietnam Veterans Day.” The governor shall issue annually a suitable proclamation for the observance of “Vietnam Veterans Day” and request that some portion of the day be used to recall the Vietnam veterans’ accomplishments and to thank those brave members of the U.S. armed forces who suffer illnesses as the result of their patriotic service to our nation.

**14.24 State council on alcohol and other drug abuse.** The state council on alcohol and other drug abuse shall:

1. Provide leadership and coordination regarding alcohol and other drug abuse issues confronting the state.
2. Meet at least once every 3 months.
3. By June 30, 1994, and by June 30 every 4 years thereafter, develop a comprehensive state plan for alcohol and other drug abuse programs. The state plan shall include all of the following:
   a. Goals, for the time period covered by the plan, for the state alcohol and other drug abuse services system.
   b. To achieve the goals in par. (a), a delineation of objectives, which the council shall review annually and, if necessary, revise.
   c. An analysis of how currently existing alcohol and other drug abuse programs will further the goals and objectives of the state plan and which programs should be created, revised or eliminated to achieve the goals and objectives of the state plan.
4. Each biennium, after introduction into the legislature but prior to passage of the biennial state budget bill, review and make recommendations to the governor, the legislature and state agencies, as defined in s. 20.001 (1), regarding the plans, budgets and operations of all state alcohol and other drug abuse programs.
5. Provide the legislature with a considered opinion under s. 13.098.
6. Coordinate and review efforts and expenditures by state agencies to prevent and control alcohol and other drug abuse and make recommendations to the agencies that are consistent with policy priorities established in the state plan developed under sub. (3).
7. Clarify responsibility among state agencies for various alcohol and other drug abuse prevention and control programs and direct cooperation between state agencies.
8. Each biennium, select alcohol and other drug abuse programs to be evaluated for their effectiveness, direct agencies to complete the evaluations, review and comment on the proposed evaluations and analyze the results for incorporation into new or improved alcohol and other drug abuse programming.
9. Publicize the problems associated with abuse of alcohol and other drugs and the efforts to prevent and control the abuse.

**History:** 1979 c. 221; 1981 c. 20; 1995 a. 27.

**14.25 Advocacy activities.** The governor may authorize advocacy activities to be conducted in the office of the governor concerning problems of members of ethnic minority groups, women and the family.


**14.165 Governor’s energy awards.** (1) The governor may issue awards to recognize outstanding accomplishments or efforts related to energy conservation or renewable energy systems. Awards may be made for all of the following:

(a) Public and private sector activities.
(b) New building design, building renovation or upgrading and maintaining existing equipment.
(c) Demand-side management programs.
(d) Contributions by engineers, architects and other professionals.
(e) Industrial applications.
(f) Service as acting governor.  (2) **RECOMMENDATIONS.** The department of administration, department of safety and professional services, and public service commission shall make recommendations to the governor for awards under sub. (1).

**History:** 1993 s. 414; 1995 a. 27 s. 9116 (5); 2011 a. 32.

**NOTE:** 1993 Wis. Act 414, which created this section, contains extensive explanatory notes.

**14.17 Conferences of governors.** The governor may attend and represent the state at all conferences of governors, and make such arrangements as deemed necessary for this state to bear its share of the expenses of such conferences. All expenses incurred under this section shall be charged to the proper appropriation for the office of the governor.

**History:** 1977 c. 29 s. 1649; 1977 c. 273.

**14.18 Assistance from department of children and families.** The governor may enter into a cooperative arrangement with the department of children and families under which the department assists the governor in providing temporary assistance for needy families under 42 USC 601 et. seq.

**History:** 1999 c. 9; 2001 a. 16 ss. 4045, 4060; 2007 a. 20.

**14.19 Advocacy activities.** (1) The governor may authorize advocacy activities to be conducted in the office of the governor concerning problems of members of ethnic minority groups, women and the family.

(3) Advocacy activities may include investigation of complaints, service as an adviser or a mediator in resolving disputes or promotion of public education and planning to resolve problems.

(4) The governor shall appoint an employee of the office of the governor as the family literacy advocate to establish a statewide program to improve family literacy.

**History:** 1979 c. 221; 1981 c. 20; 1995 a. 27.
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(3) Compensation for service by the lieutenant governor under this section shall be paid from the appropriation in s. 20.525 (1) (a).

History: 1971 c. 42; 1971 c. 125 s. 522 (1); 1975 c. 39 s. 734; 1977 c. 29 s. 1656 (15); 1989 a. 31.

14.33 Employees. The lieutenant governor may employ within the limits of the appropriations under s. 20.540 such staff as he or she deems necessary outside the classified service for such period and upon such terms as the lieutenant governor determines.

History: 1971 c. 125; 1977 c. 196 s. 131; 1977 c. 273; 1979 c. 34; 1987 a. 27.

14.34 Additional executive duties. As the second ranking executive officer of the state, the lieutenant governor shall have such additional duties as are assigned by the governor in writing. These may include:

(1) The designation by the governor of the lieutenant governor as the governor’s representative on any statutory commission, board or committee on which the governor is entitled to membership. Under such designation, the lieutenant governor shall perform in the place of the governor and shall have all authority and responsibility granted by law to the governor with regard to such membership.

(2) The designation by the governor of the lieutenant governor as the governor’s representative on any nonstatutory committee created by the governor under s. 14.019.

(3) The designation by the governor of the lieutenant governor to coordinate state services and programs under s. 14.03 and such other statutory responsibility of the governor for this purpose. The governor shall specify in writing to state agencies the nature, areas and extent of such designated authority.

(4) The designation by the governor of the lieutenant governor as the governor’s representative on any intergovernmental body created for the purpose of maintaining relationships with the federal government, state government, regional agencies or local government.

History: 1973 c. 90; 1991 a. 316.

14.35 Authorized activities. The lieutenant governor may:

(1) Accept gifts, grants, bequests or devises, or federal monies authorized by the governor under s. 16.54, to be used for the authorized functions of the office of lieutenant governor.

(2) Conduct conferences or prepare and sell publications or promotional materials related to the authorized functions of the office of lieutenant governor.

History: 1987 a. 27.

SUBCHAPTER III

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

14.36 Office of secretary of state; creation. There is created an office of the secretary of state under the direction and supervision of the secretary of state.

14.38 Secretary of state, duties. The secretary of state shall:

(1) RECORD EXECUTIVE ACTS. Keep a record of the official acts of the executive department and, when required, lay the same and all matters relative thereto before either house of the legislature.

(2) AFFIX GREAT SEAL. REGISTER COMMISSIONS. Affix the great seal to and countersign all commissions issued and other official acts done by the governor, the governor’s approval of the laws excepted; and make a register of such commissions in a book provided by the governor therefor, specifying the person to whom issued, the office conferred, and the date and term of the commission.

(3) HAVE CUSTODY OF BOOKS, RECORDS, ETC. Have the custody of all books, records, deeds, bonds, parchments, maps, papers and other articles and effects belonging to the state, deposited or kept in the secretary of state’s office, and make such provision for the arrangement and preservation thereof as is necessary, and keep the same, together with all accounts and transactions of the office open at all times to the inspection and examination of the governor or any committee of either or both houses of the legislature.

(4) BIENNIAL REPORT. Report biennially in accordance with s. 15.04 (1) (d) all matters pertaining to the office and, when required, furnish the governor or either house of the legislature, in writing, any information relative to the performance of the duties of the office.

(5) KEEP ENROLLED LAWS, ETC. Safely keep all enrolled laws and resolutions, and not permit any of them to be taken out of the secretary of state’s office or inspected except in the presence of the secretary of state, unless by order of the governor or by resolution of one or both houses of the legislature. For any violation of this subsection the secretary of state shall forfeit the sum of $100.

(6) COMPILE ORIGINAL LAWS AND RESOLUTIONS. Cause the original laws enacted and joint resolutions adopted at each session of the legislature, together with the index containing the titles of the same, to be bound in suitable volumes in a substantial manner, and in the order in which they are enacted or adopted, with the title thereof and the session at which they are enacted or adopted to be written or printed on the spine of the volumes.

(7) RECORD FEES. Keep a record of all fees received by the office and include a summary of such record in the biennial report under s. 15.04 (1) (d).

(8) FURNISH CERTIFIED COPIES. Make a copy of any law, resolution, deed, bond, record, document or paper deposited or kept in his or her office, upon request therefor, attach thereto his or her certificate, with the greater or lesser seal affixed, and collect therefor 50 cents per page and $5 for such certificate; if a copy is not to be certified and if the reproduction is performed by the office of the secretary of state, then collect a fee to cover the actual and necessary cost of reproduction and actual and necessary cost of transcription required to produce the copy or $2, whichever is greater; also to record any document authorized or required by law to be recorded in his or her office, and charge therefor a fee of $1 per page. The fee for certified copies and for certificates as to results of searches of the records and files of his or her office, when a printed form is used, shall be $5, but when a specially prepared form is required the fee shall be $10. Telegraphic reports as to results of record searches shall be $5 plus the cost of the telegram. The secretary of state shall charge and collect for preparing any record or certificate under this subsection in an expedient manner, an expedited service fee of $25 in addition to the fee otherwise required under this subsection.

(9m) SIGNATURES. Receive and file the signature and an impression of the official seal or rubber stamp of all county clerks and registrars of deeds, and upon request certify to the authenticity of that signature and official seal or rubber stamp and charge therefor the statutory fee.

(10m) NOTIFICATION OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT. If an amendment to the Wisconsin Constitution is approved that requires the legislature to provide for temporary succession to the powers and duties of public offices for the period of an emergency resulting from a cause other than an enemy action, within 30 days after the elections commission records the approval under s. 7.70 (3) (b), notify the legislature that the amendment has been approved.

(11) OTHER DUTIES. Perform such other duties as are imposed upon the secretary of state by the constitution or by law.


14.39 Conditional acceptance of filing fees. Before actually filing any document by making an endorsement on that document, the secretary of state may accept and deposit the filing fee submitted with that document upon the condition that if subse-
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14.60 Office of the secretary of state.

14.60 Office of the secretary of state. The office of the secretary of state shall be accessible to the public. That office may not be located in the same room as the office of any other member of the board of commissioners of public lands.

History: 2015 a. 55.

SUBCHAPTER IV
OFFICE OF THE STATE TREASURER

14.56 Office of state treasurer; creation. There is created an office of the state treasurer under the direction and supervision of the state treasurer.

History: 2017 c. 100 s. 23; 1979 c. 34; 1995 a. 27 s. 9145 (1); 1997 a. 27; 2015 a. 55.

14.58 Duties of state treasurer. The state treasurer shall:

(1) Sign checks, share drafts, and other drafts. Sign checks, share drafts, and other drafts on depositories in which moneys may be deposited in one of the following methods:

(a) By the state treasurer personally.

(b) In the name of the state treasurer, by any clerk in the treasurer’s office designated by the treasurer.

(c) By placing on a check, share draft or other draft the facsimile signature of the state treasurer adopted by him or her as a facsimile signature. Any depository shall be fully warranted and protected in making payment on any check, share draft or other draft bearing such facsimile notwithstanding that the facsimile may have been placed on the check, share draft or other draft without the state treasurer’s authority.

(4) Unclaimed property program. Provide services related to the promotion of the unclaimed property program under ch. 177 in consultation with the secretary of revenue.

(7) Permit examination of books. Permit at all times inspection and examination of the books, papers and transactions of the treasurer’s office by the governor, secretary of state, attorney general, department of administration or state auditor, or by the legislature, any committee thereof or either house thereof.

(11) Make certified copies. Make a certified copy of any deed, bond, document or paper filed in the treasurer’s office, and transcripts from the books and records kept therein, when required by any person so to do; and collect therefor 25 cents per folio, and $1 for such certificate.

(14) Other duties. Perform all other duties imposed upon the state treasurer by law.


14.59 Training conferences. The state treasurer may conduct conferences for the purpose of training county and municipal clerks and treasurers, and employees of their offices, in their official responsibilities. The treasurer may charge participants in any conference a fee for participation which shall not exceed the proportionate cost of conducting the conference. The treasurer shall credit all revenues from fees assessed under this section to the appropriation account under s. 20.585 (1) (h).

History: 1995 a. 27.

14.60 State treasurer’s bond. The bond of the state treasurer shall extend to the faithful execution of the duties of the office of state treasurer until a successor is elected and fully qualified. If the treasurer elects to give bond guaranteed by a surety company, the cost thereof and of any additional bond required of and furnished by the treasurer and so guaranteed shall be borne by the state and shall be paid out of the appropriation to the office of
the state treasurer; if the annual cost thereof does not exceed 0.25 percent of the amount of said bond.

**History:** 1991 a. 316.

**SUBCHAPTER V**

**INTERSTATE BODIES AND AGREEMENTS**

**14.76 Interstate compacts.** (1) This section shall apply to the establishment of agreements not affecting the sovereignty of the United States.

(2) Any state agency may agree by compact with other states to apply existing standards for residents to nonresidents if the laws or regulations of the states with which such compacts are made are similarly applied to Wisconsin residents. The compact shall be effective when approved by joint resolution adopted by the legislature.

(3) Any state agency may negotiate compacts with similar agencies in other states relating to the treatment of nonresidents on subjects within its delegated powers but on which no legislation providing standards has been enacted. Such compacts shall be submitted to the legislature and shall be effective when approved as are bills.

(4) Each compact shall as nearly as possible set forth:

(a) The statutory authority for the delegated power under which the agency is proceeding.

(b) The legal effect of the compact as shown by the amendments to statutes and rules in the applicable states required to accomplish the objectives of the compact.

(c) The objectives of the compact.

(d) The precise reasons for the compact.

(e) The standards established by the compact.

(f) The procedures contemplated by the compact.

(g) The effective date of the compact.

(h) The effect of the compact upon:
   1. Public finances.
   2. Public policy.

**History:** 1971 c. 62; 1983 a. 308.

**14.78 Great Lakes compact commission.** (1) **MEMBERS; TERMS.** There is created a Great Lakes compact commission consisting of 3 commissioners appointed by the governor. The commissioners shall be persons having knowledge of and interest in problems of the Great Lakes basin. One commissioner, appointed for an indefinite term, shall be a state officer or employee and shall serve as secretary of the Great Lakes compact commission. The other commissioners shall be appointed for terms of 4 years. The commissioners shall receive no salaries but shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses.

(2) **DUTIES.** It is the duty of the Wisconsin Great Lakes compact commission:

(a) To represent this state on the Great Lakes commission created by the Great Lakes basin compact ratified and enacted by chapter 275, laws of 1955, and through such representation to perform the functions of the Great Lakes commission in conjunction with the commissioners of other party states. Whenever a vote is required by the terms of the Great Lakes basin compact, each member of the Wisconsin Great Lakes compact commission is authorized to cast the same proportion of the 3 votes to which the state of Wisconsin is entitled under the compact as each of the other members of the Wisconsin Great Lakes compact commission.

(b) To maintain a continuing investigation of the project of connecting the Great Lakes with the Atlantic ocean by means of the Welland canal and the St. Lawrence River and to urge upon congress the enactment of additional appropriate legislation to enable the full development of such waterway, the commission to work in conjunction with similar commissions in other states and with other interested groups and agencies in the promotion of such project.

(c) To direct and execute a program of education in such form as the commission may determine, in support of the projects for development of the St. Lawrence seaway and the deepening of the Great Lakes connecting channels, using not to exceed the amount of funds appropriated for that purpose.

(d) To report biennially in accordance with s. 15.04 (1) (d), and to make such other reports as are requested by the governor or which it deems appropriate.

(3) **FINANCING COMMISSION.** The Great Lakes compact commission may annually contribute to the Great Lakes commission not to exceed the amount appropriated for that purpose.

(4) **STATE OFFICERS TO AID COMMISSION.** It is the policy of the state to carry out the Great Lakes basin compact and to accomplish the purposes thereof, and all officers of the state shall do all things falling within their respective jurisdictions necessary or incidental to carrying out such compact. Officers, agencies and employees of the state government shall, at reasonable times and upon request of the Great Lakes commission, furnish such commission with information and data within their possession and aid such commission by loan of personnel and other means lying within their respective legal powers.

**History:** 1975 c. 39, 198; 1977 c. 196 s. 131.


**14.81 Midwest interstate low−level radioactive waste commission.** (1) There is created a midwest low−level radioactive waste commission as specified under s. 16.11 (3) (a). The member of the commission representing this state shall be nominated by the governor, and with the advice and consent of the senate appointed, to serve at the pleasure of the governor. The commission member representing this state shall receive a per diem of $25, unless he or she is a salaried full−time employee of this state, and shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of his or her duties on the commission. Per diem payments and expenses of the commissioner shall be paid from the appropriation under s. 20.505 (1) (g). The commission has the powers and duties granted and imposed under s. 16.11.

(2) In discharging his or her responsibilities under s. 16.11, the commission member representing this state shall:

(a) Designate an alternate commission member and notify the governor and legislature of this designation within 30 days after being appointed.

(b) Request the commission to conduct a public hearing on the draft disposal plan under s. 16.11 (4) (d).

(c) Notify the governor and legislature if:
   1. The commission proposes to designate this state as a host state for a facility, as defined in s. 16.11 (2) (b).
   2. The commission proposes to impose any liability on the state under s. 16.11.
   3. He or she has reason to believe that the state should withdraw from the midwest interstate low−level radioactive waste commission specified in s. 16.11.

(3) In negotiating and developing the bylaws, disposal plan and other appropriate documents as a member of the commission, the commission member representing this state shall:

(a) Promote this state’s interest in including insurance requirements and an extended care and long−term liability fund as a part of the disposal plan or other appropriate documents.

(b) Encourage the pursuit of sound low−level radioactive waste management practices including minimizing the dependence on the shallow burial of this type of waste.

(c) Promote this state’s interest in an equitable distribution and rotation of responsibilities among member states under the compact.
(d) Encourage, to the fullest extent of his or her influence and authority, actions and procedures which permit and encourage full and meaningful public access and participation in the commission’s proceedings including informal meetings and meetings of committees and subcommittees of the commission and full and meaningful public access to commission records and documents.

(e) Encourage the establishment of a fee system which provides for adequate compensation to local units of government which are affected by the siting of a regional low-level radioactive waste disposal facility.

(f) Promote the right of this state under s. 16.11 (5) (b) to have all low-level radioactive wastes generated within its borders, including low-level radioactive wastes generated at the La Crosse boiling water reactor constructed under section 109 of P.L. 87–315, disposed of at compact facilities, as defined in s. 16.11 (2) (d), or any noncompact facility made available by an agreement entered into under s. 16.11 (3) (h) 6.


14.82 Interstate insurance product regulation commission. There is created an interstate insurance product regulation commission as specified in s. 601.58 (3). The member of the commission representing this state shall be the commissioner of insurance or his or her designated representative, who must be an official or employee of the office of the commissioner of insurance. The commission member shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed from the appropriation under s. 20.145 (1) (g) for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of his or her duties. The commission has the powers and duties granted and imposed under s. 601.58.

History: 2007 a. 168.

14.83 Interstate medical licensure compact. There is created an interstate medical licensure compact as specified in s. 448.980. The members of the commission representing this state under s. 448.980 (11) (d) shall be members of the medical examining board and shall be appointed by the chairperson of the medical examining board, subject to confirmation by the senate. The commission has the powers and duties granted and imposed under s. 448.980.

History: 2015 a. 116; 2019 a. 49 s. 1.

14.84 Great Lakes protection fund. (1) The governor may provide for the participation of this state in the formation and operation of the Great Lakes protection fund on behalf of this state if all of the following apply to the fund:

(a) The fund is established to advance the principal goals and objectives of the Great Lakes toxic substances control agreement and the water quality agreement signed by the United States and Canada.

(b) The fund is established to finance and support state and regional projects related to the protection, research and cleanup of the Great Lakes.

(c) Earnings and interest from the fund will be available to this state for all of the following purposes:

1. To ensure a stable and predictable funding commitment for Great Lakes water quality.
2. Data collection and analysis of the economic, environmental and human health effects of contamination in the Great Lakes.
3. Development of new or improved environmental clean-up technologies applicable to the Great Lakes.
4. Research to assess the effectiveness of pollution control policies affecting the Great Lakes.
5. Assessment of the health of Great Lakes fish, waterfowl and other organisms.

(d) The fund will be operative when it is executed by this state and at least 3 other states under the articles of incorporation of the fund.

(2) The governor shall nominate 2 persons to represent this state on the board of directors of the Great Lakes protection fund.

Those persons shall be appointed with the advice and consent of the senate.

History: 1989 a. 31.

14.85 Mississippi River parkway commission. (1) There is created a Mississippi River parkway commission consisting of the following members:

(a) One member from each of the counties of Buffalo, Crawford, Grant, La Crosse, Pepin, Pierce, Trempealeau and Vernon.

(b) Two senators and 2 representatives to the assembly. The 2 major political parties shall be represented in the membership from each house.

(2) The secretary of tourism, the secretary of natural resources, the secretary of transportation, and the director of the historical society, or their designees, shall serve as nonvoting members of the commission.

(3) Each member under sub. (1) shall be appointed by the governor for a 4–year term. Any vacancy shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term by the governor as soon as practicable.

(4) The commission shall elect its own chairperson and officers other than a chairperson from among its members as its work requires. The commission chairperson shall:

(a) Be the sole voting representative of this state at meetings of the national Mississippi River parkway commission.

(b) Report to the commission on the activities of the national Mississippi River parkway commission.

(c) Serve as commission secretary, designate a member of the commission to serve as commission secretary or require an election by the commission of a commission secretary.

(d) Notify the members of meetings of the commission and keep a record of its proceedings, or delegate these responsibilities to the commission secretary.

(5) The commission shall:

(a) Assist in coordinating the development and preservation of the Great River Road in Wisconsin and its embellishments, such as scenic easements, roadside parks and scenic overlooks.

(b) Assist other state agencies in all efforts to create a unified development of the Great River Road in Wisconsin and any of its collateral features.

(c) Cooperate with similar committees or commissions in other states and Canadian provinces in the furtherance of the ultimate development of the Great River Road from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico.

(d) Consult with the appropriate regional planning commissions regarding the Mississippi River parkway.

(e) Assist in promoting as an attractive travel destination the Great River Road in Wisconsin and the unique historical, cultural, aesthetic and recreational features along the route of the Great River Road, such as local communities, off-road parks and forests, and water-oriented facilities.

(6) The commission shall meet quarterly and may meet at other times on the call of the chairperson.

(7) The departments and agencies of this state shall, within existing appropriations and to the best of their respective abilities, cooperate with the commission in the execution of its functions.

(a) The annual membership dues for the commission shall be paid from the appropriation under s. 20.395 (4) (aq).

(b) The members of the commission shall serve without compensation but, except as provided in par. (c), shall be reimbursed from the appropriation under s. 20.395 (4) (aq) for 75 percent of actual and necessary expenses incurred in performing their duties under guidelines for reimbursement established by the department of transportation.

(c) The chairperson of the commission shall be reimbursed from the appropriation under s. 20.395 (4) (aq) for all actual and necessary expenses incurred in performing his or her duties under guidelines for reimbursement established by the department of transportation.
14.85 CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICES AND INTERSTATE BODIES

(d) If the department of tourism determines that a program recommended by the commission to undertake activities relating to the promotion of tourism is consistent with the department’s statewide tourism marketing plans, priorities, and resources, the department shall have primary responsibility to support the activities of the program.

(9) The commission may establish a technical committee to advise the commission. The members of the committee shall include at least one employee from each of the departments of transportation; agriculture, trade and consumer protection; and tourism and from the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation. The commission shall request those departments and the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation to designate employees to serve on the committee and may request any other state agency to designate an employee to serve on the committee.

(10) Unless specifically provided otherwise by the commission with respect to committees or other similar bodies, a majority of the voting members constitute a quorum to do business.

14.86 Midwest interstate passenger rail commission.

(1) There is created a midwest interstate passenger rail commission as specified under s. 85.067 (2), consisting of the following members representing this state:

(a) The governor or his or her designee.

(b) One representative to the assembly, appointed by the speaker of the assembly for a 2-year term, or until a successor is appointed.

(c) One senator appointed by the president of the senate for a 2-year term, or until a successor is appointed.

(d) One member representing the private sector, appointed by the governor for a 2-year term.

(2) The members of the commission shall serve without compensation. The commission has the powers and duties granted and imposed under s. 85.067.

(3) From the appropriation under s. 20.395 (4) (a), the department of transportation shall pay the costs of membership in the midwest interstate passenger rail compact.

History: 2007 a. 117; 2013 a. 182.

14.87 Enhanced nurse licensure compact.

There is created an interstate commission of nurse licensure compact administrators as specified in s. 441.51. The administrator of the commission representing this state shall be the chairperson of the board of nursing or his or her designee as provided in s. 441.51 (7) (b) 1. The commission has the powers and duties granted and imposed under s. 441.51.

History: 2017 a. 135.

14.88 Physical therapy licensure compact.

There is created a physical therapy compact commission as specified in s. 448.985. The administrator of the commission representing this state shall be the individual described in s. 448.985 (7) (b) 2. The commission has the powers and duties granted and imposed under s. 448.985.

History: 2019 a. 100.

14.90 Midwestern higher education commission.

(1) There is created a midwestern higher education commission as specified under s. 39.80 (2) (a) consisting of the following members representing this state:

(a) The governor or his or her designee.

(b) One representative to the assembly appointed by the speaker to the assembly for a 2-year term.

(c) One senator appointed by the president of the senate for a 2-year term.

(d) One member representing higher education appointed by the governor for a 4-year term.

(e) One member representing higher education appointed by the governor for a 2-year term.

(2) The members of the commission shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed from the appropriation under s. 20.505 (1) (ka) for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. The commission has the powers granted and the duties imposed under s. 39.80.


14.91 State council on the interstate compact on educational opportunity for military children.

(1) There is created a state council on the interstate compact on educational opportunity for military children as specified under s. 115.997 (8), consisting of the following members:

(a) The state superintendent of public instruction.

(b) The superintendent of a school district with a high concentration of children of military families, appointed by the state superintendent of public instruction.

(c) A representative from a military installation, appointed by the state superintendent of public instruction.

(d) A member of the senate, appointed by the senate majority leader.

(e) A member of the assembly, appointed by the speaker of the assembly.

(f) The compact commissioner, as defined in s. 115.997 (2) (c), appointed by the state superintendent of public instruction under s. 115.997 (8) (c), and the military family education liaison, appointed under s. 115.997 (8) (b), to serve as nonvoting members.

(2) The members of the council shall serve without compensation.

History: 2009 a. 329.


There is created an Interstate Commission for Juveniles as specified in s. 938.999 (3). The member of the commission representing this state shall be the compact administrator, as defined in s. 938.999 (2) (c), the deputy compact administrator, as defined in s. 938.999 (2) (f), or a designee, as specified in s. 938.999 (3) (b). The commission member shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed from the appropriation account under s. 20.437 (1) (a) for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of the commission member’s duties. The commission shall have the powers, duties, and responsibilities set forth in s. 938.999.

History: 2005 a. 234.

14.94 Interstate Commission for the Placement of Children.

There is created an Interstate Commission for the Placement of Children as specified in s. 48.99 (8). The member of the commission representing this state shall be the person appointed under s. 48.99 (8) (b) 1. The commission member shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed from the appropriation account under s. 20.437 (1) (a) for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of the commission member’s duties. The commission shall have the powers, duties, and responsibilities set forth in s. 48.99.


(1) There is created a Great Lakes — St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Council as specified in s. 281.343 (2) (a). The governor may take such actions as are necessary for the initial organization and operation of the Great Lakes — St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Council.

(2) The governor shall serve as this state’s representative on the Great Lakes — St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Council. In discharging his or her responsibilities under s. 281.343 (2) and (3), the governor may designate the secretary of natural resources as the governor’s alternate to attend all meetings of the Great Lakes — St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Council and to vote at all meetings of the Great Lakes — St.
Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Council in the absence of the governor. Any designee other than the secretary of natural resources shall be nominated by the governor, and with the advice and consent of the senate appointed, to serve at the pleasure of the governor.

(3) In discharging his or her responsibilities under s. 281.343 (2) and (3), the governor may appoint an advisor to attend all meetings of the Great Lakes — St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Council and its committees. The governor’s advisor may not vote at meetings of the council. If the governor appoints an advisor, the governor shall appoint an individual with knowledge of and experience with Great Lakes water management issues.

(3m) (a) In this subsection, “standard of review and decision” means the exception standard under s. 281.343 (4n) (d), the decision-making standard under s. 281.343 (4r), and reviews under s. 281.343 (4) to (4z) that do not deal solely with the internal management of the council.

(b) Before voting on a rule or regulation under s. 281.343 (3) (c) 1., or on a regulation under s. 281.343 (3) (a) 2. that amends the standard of review and decision, other than a rule or regulation that deals solely with the internal management of the council or its property, the governor or his or her alternate shall submit a report describing the governor’s or alternate’s proposed vote on the proposed rule or regulation to the joint committee on legislative organization. The governor or his or her alternate may not vote on the rule or regulation before the 30th day after the date of submission. If the cochairpersons of the committee do not notify the governor or his or her alternate within 30 days after the date of the submission that the committee has scheduled a meeting for the purpose of reviewing the proposed rule or regulation, the governor or his or her alternate may vote on the proposed rule or regulation in accordance with the report. If, within 30 days after the date of the submission by the governor or his or her alternate, the cochairpersons of the committee notify the governor or his or her alternate that the committee has scheduled a meeting for the purpose of reviewing the proposed rule or regulation, the governor or his or her alternate may not vote on the proposed rule or regulation before the 60th day after the date of submission. If, within 60 days after the date of submission, the committee does not take action on the report, the governor or his or her alternate may vote on the proposed rule or regulation in accordance with the report. If, within 30 days after the date of submission, the cochairpersons notify the governor or his or her alternate that the committee has scheduled a meeting for the purpose of reviewing the proposed rule or regulation and, within 60 days after the date of submission, the committee takes action on the proposed rule or regulation, the governor or his or her alternate may only vote on the proposed rule or regulation in accordance with the position expressed by majority vote of the committee.