

1979 Assembly Bill 502

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## CHAPTER 130, Laws of 1979

AN ACT to consolidate and amend 60.60 (1) and (3); to amend 60.19 (1) (a) and 60.60 (title); and to create 60.50 and 60.60 (2) (b) of the statutes, relating to town authority to combine or designate as part-time certain town offices.

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

SECTION 1. 60.19 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

60.19 (1) (a) Biennially, in the odd-numbered years, at the annual town meeting each town shall elect the following officers: 3 supervisors except when the number of supervisors has been increased under par. (am), one of whom shall be designated on the ballots as chairman, a town clerk, a treasurer, or, under s. 60.60 (2) (b), a person to serve in the combined office of town clerk and town treasurer, an assessor (the number of assistant assessors for which the town board before the election made provisions), if election of the assessor is provided, and so many constables, not exceeding 3, as were ordered by the last preceding annual town meeting. No person not an elector of the town may hold any town office, except that the town may appoint a corporation as an assistant to the assessor under s. 70.05 (2), or employ a corporation or the department of revenue as expert help

under s. 70.055, or the town board may appoint a person who is not an elector of the town under sub. (2) or (5), and no person may hold the offices of treasurer and assessor at the same time. The electors may at a referendum election held at the time of any regular or special election, vote to combine the offices of assessor and clerk to take effect at the expiration of the current terms of such officers. No assessor may be elected in towns appointing such officers under civil service under subs. (2) and (3) and no assessor may be elected in any town after the town comes within the jurisdiction of a county assessor under s. 70.99. The corporation or the department of revenue appointed under s. 70.055 shall designate the person who shall serve with the assessor as the assessment board. The designee shall file the official oath as prescribed in s. 19.01, and sign the affidavit of the assessor attached to the assessment roll under s. 70.49. No person may be designated by any corporation or the department of revenue unless the person has been granted the appropriate certification under s. 73.03 (2).

SECTION 1m. 60.50 of the statutes is created to read:

**60.50 Annual audit of town treasury.** If a town combines the office of town clerk and town treasurer under s. 60.60 (2) (b), the town board shall appoint at least once every fiscal year a certified public accountant not otherwise employed by the town to audit the town records.

SECTION 2. 60.60 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

**60.60 (title) Compensation of town officers; combination of offices.**

SECTION 3. 60.60 (1) and (3) of the statutes are consolidated and amended to read:

60.60 (1) The compensation of town supervisors, treasurers and town clerks shall be fixed by the annual town meeting. In lieu of an annual salary, the annual town meeting may establish a per diem compensation for town supervisors, clerks and treasurers, for each day or parts of a day necessarily devoted by them to the service of the town in the discharge of their respective duties. ~~(3) No~~ Except as provided under sub. (2) (b), no town officer shall may be entitled to compensation from ~~compensated by~~ the town for acting in more than one official capacity or office at the same time.

(2) (a) In the town in any county containing one town only, the town board may, by resolution, designate any town office a part-time position, combine 2 or more town offices, including the offices of town clerk and assessor, and, if concurred in by the county board, combine the offices of town clerk and county clerk and any other town and county offices if the offices combined are not incompatible and the combination is not expressly forbidden by law. If the town and county boards agree to combine a county and town office, the election shall be for the combined office ~~as provided in~~ under s. 59.12 and no separate election for the town office ~~shall~~ may be held until after the county board ~~has~~, by resolution ~~decided to abandon~~, abandons such combination and the town board ~~has concurred~~, by resolution, concurs.

SECTION 4. 60.60 (2) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

60.60 (2) (b) Any annual town meeting may combine the offices of town clerk and town treasurer or designate the office of town clerk, the office of town treasurer or the combined office of town clerk and town treasurer part-time. The election for a combined office shall be under s. 60.19. No separate election for town clerk or town treasurer, if combined, may be held unless the annual town meeting abandons the combination. Under sub. (1), the annual town meeting may provide for compensation for any office combined or designated part-time under this paragraph.

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