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Details:

(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

**WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ...
PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS**

2009-10

(session year)

Senate

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

**Committee on ... Labor, Elections, and Urban
Affairs (SC-LEUA)**

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

- Committee Reports ... **CR**
- Executive Sessions ... **ES**
- Public Hearings ... **PH**

INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

- Appointments ... **Appt** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Clearinghouse Rules ... **CRule** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Hearing Records ... bills and resolutions (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
 - (**ab** = Assembly Bill) (**ar** = Assembly Resolution) (**ajr** = Assembly Joint Resolution)
 - (**sb** = Senate Bill) (**sr** = Senate Resolution) (**sjr** = Senate Joint Resolution)
- Miscellaneous ... **Misc**

- Sybil Better
- Susan McMurray — AFSCME
- Doug Burnett — AFSCME International
- Anne Sayers — Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters
- Shirley Haidinger
- Andrea Kaminski — League of Women Voters

Registrations Against

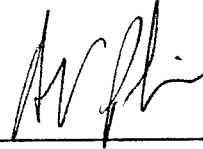
- Sue Peck — Wisconsin Municipal Clerks
- Jim Ott — Representative
- Thomas Preusker

Registrations for Information Only

- None.

April 22, 2010

Failed to pass pursuant to Senate Joint Resolution 1.



Adam Plotkin
Committee Clerk



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Terry C. Anderson, Director
Laura D. Rose, Deputy Director

TO: REPRESENTATIVE TERESE BERCEAU

FROM: Jessica Karls-Ruplinger, Staff Attorney

RE: 2009 Assembly Bill 892 and Assembly Amendment __ (LRBa1917/1)

DATE: March 29, 2010

This memorandum describes 2009 Assembly Bill 892, relating to electronic voter registration and proof of residence for voting in an election, and Assembly Amendment __ (LRBa1917/1) to the bill. 2009 Senate Bill 645 is the Senate companion bill to Assembly Bill 892, and Senate Amendment __ (LRBa1918/1) to Senate Bill 645 is identical to Assembly Amendment __ (LRBa1917/1) to Assembly Bill 892.

2009 ASSEMBLY BILL 892

Assembly Bill 892 provides that an eligible elector who holds a current and valid state driver's license or identification card may complete voter registration, or makes changes in his or her voter registration, electronically in a manner prescribed by the Government Accountability Board (GAB). The deadline for electronic voter registration for an election is midnight on the third Wednesday preceding the election.

Under the bill, to facilitate electronic voter registration, GAB must maintain a secure registration form on the Internet that enables an elector to enter all required information electronically. There is no requirement for a signature. An elector generally must provide the same information for electronic voter registration as he or she would provide for nonelectronic voter registration.

The bill provides that an elector who is required to register, who is not a military elector or an overseas elector, who registers by electronic application, and who has not voted in an election in this state must provide proof of residence. However, proof of residence is not required if the elector provides the number of a current and valid state driver's license together with the elector's name and date of birth and if GAB is able to verify that information electronically at the time of registration. GAB must maintain a system that electronically verifies, on an instant basis, the validity of this information

with the information maintained by the Department of Transportation (DOT) pursuant to an agreement between GAB and DOT.

Further, the bill requires that GAB prescribe, by rule, the manner and method of electronic application for registration, together with requirements for affirmation and verification of elector information and the method for receipt of electronic registration forms. GAB must also prescribe, by rule, the procedure and methods by which municipal clerks and boards of election commissioners maintain records of electronic registrations. Lastly, GAB must prescribe the form required for electronic voter registration, and the form must contain a statement of the penalty applicable to false or fraudulent registration or voting through use of the form.

No later than the 20th day following the end of each calendar quarter, the bill requires that GAB and DOT each report to the appropriate standing committees of the Legislature concerning progress in implementing an electronic voter registration system. GAB and DOT must continue to file reports until GAB determines that implementation is complete and the performance of the system is satisfactory.

The bill, if enacted, first applies with respect to registration for voting at the 2012 spring primary election.

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT __ (LRBa1917/1)

Assembly Amendment __ (LRBa1917/1) provides that an overseas elector¹ may complete voter registration electronically under the bill. In addition, the amendment makes a technical change to include a cross-reference.

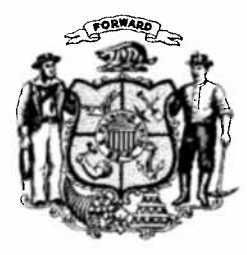
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly at the Legislative Council staff offices.

JKR:wu

¹ An "overseas elector" is a U.S. citizen who is not disqualified from voting, who has attained or will attain the age of 18 by the date of an election at which the citizen proposes to vote and who does not qualify as a resident of this state, but who was last domiciled in this state or whose parent was last domiciled in this state immediately prior to the parent's departure from the United States, and who is not registered to vote or voting in any other state, territory, or possession. [s. 6.24 (1), Stats.]



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



FRED A. RISSER
President
Wisconsin State Senate

March 31, 2010



Senator Spencer Coggs, Chair
Senate Committee on Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs
123 South, State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Dear ~~Senator~~ ^{Spencer} Coggs,

Thank you Chairman Coggs for holding a hearing on Senate Bill 645 and Assembly Bill 892, companion bills authored by Rep. Terese Berceau and myself.


Senate Bill 645 and Assembly Bill 892 permit a qualified elector who holds a current and valid state driver's license or state-issued identification card to register to vote, or makes changes in his or her voter registration, via computer using a secure Internet site maintained by the Government Accountability Board (GAB). The information is then immediately matched with data from the Department of Transportation. If a registrant's information does not match, the application cannot be completed and must be submitted manually.

Arizona, Oregon, Washington and Kansas have successfully implemented online registration and four other states have passed legislation to do so. Registrations submitted online are more complete and accurate and will reduce the workload for election administrators who will have fewer manual forms to process.

Civic participation in the election process is a valuable and important part of our democracy and I believe that government should work to find even better ways to strengthen and improve our election procedures. There is no doubt that people's lives have become increasingly busy and complicated. Offering our constituents and voters the option of registering to vote online is a service that they will value and appreciate.

I appreciate your willingness to schedule these measures for a public hearing and I encourage the committee to look favorably upon this important legislation.

Most sincerely,

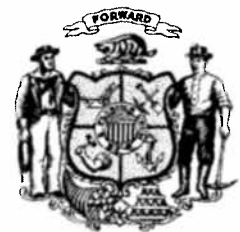

FRED A. RISSER
President
Wisconsin State Senate

FAR:tet

Cc: Senate Committee on Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



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JUDGE WILLIAM EICH
Chair

KEVIN J. KENNEDY
Director and General Counsel

JOINT COMMITTEE HEARING

2009 Senate Bill 645 and 2009 Assembly Bill 892

Senate Committee on Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs Assembly Committee on Elections and Campaign Reform

Testimony of Kevin J. Kennedy
Director and General Counsel
Government Accountability Board
March 31, 2010

Chairperson Coggs, Chairperson Smith, Senate and Assembly Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony with respect to 2009 Senate Bill 645 and 2009 Assembly Bill 892 on behalf of the Government Accountability Board (G.A.B.). The agency supports this proposed legislation. Electronic registration is a part of the G.A.B.'s Legislatively-approved State Election Administration Plan for 2009-2014, and introduction of this legislation will put the agency well on its way to realize that objective.

The agency appreciates the opportunity to have worked with Representative Berceau regarding the technical and administrative details of this legislation. The agency also appreciates Senator Risser's contributions to this legislation.

The agency continues to study electronic registration currently offered by several states. Electronic registration in Washington and Arizona has significantly lessened the registration burden on clerks in the weeks leading up to an election, while at the same time maintained the integrity of the process by requiring verification of registrants with the department of motor vehicle database. Limiting electronic registration to persons with a driver's license or state-issued identification card provides a secure process and permits an instant verification of the authenticity of the registration. This legislation properly strikes the balance between elector accessibility and integrity of the electoral process.

A common thread among states with true electronic registration is the compatibility of the registration and motor vehicle databases. Hurdles may need to be overcome in creating an application for electronic registration. This legislation provides sufficient flexibility for the agency to implement electronic registration in cooperation with the Department of Transportation.

We believe the legislation continues Wisconsin's commitment to accessible elections, while also preserving the integrity of the registration and election process. This in turn will maintain the highest degree of confidence in our electoral system by all participants in the electoral process.

Conclusion

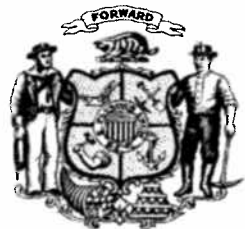
Thank you for having considered and incorporated many of our recommendations regarding this legislation. Most importantly, thank you for advancing electronic registration, which is a part of the G.A.B.'s State Election Administration Plan for 2009-2014. The Government Accountability Board staff is available to answer any questions or provide further assistance during consideration of this legislation.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin J. Kennedy
Director and General Counsel
Government Accountability Board
(608) 266-8005
Kevin.Kennedy@wi.gov



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



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Presented by the Wisconsin
Government Accountability Board

as of Tuesday, March 30, 2010

2009-2010 legislative session
Legislative bills and resolutions

(search for another legislative bill or resolution at the bottom of this page)

Senate Bill 645

electronic voter registration and proof of residence for voting in an election and granting rule-making authority. (FE)

TEXT
sponsors
LRB analysis

STATUS
committee actions and
votes
text of amendments

COST & HOURS
of lobbying efforts
directed at this
proposal

| Organization | | These organizations have reported lobbying on this proposal: | Place pointer on icon to display comments, click icon to display prior comments | | |
|--------------|-----------|--|---|----------|----------|
| Profile | Interests | | Date Notified | Position | Comments |
| ● | ● | AFSCME International | 3/30/2010 | ↑ | |
| ● | ● | Disability Rights Wisconsin | 3/29/2010 | ↑ | |

Select a legislative proposal and click "go"

House

Proposal Type

Proposal Number (enter proposal number)

Legislative Session