

## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2015 Wisconsin Act 87 [2015 Assembly Bill 392]

## Authorizing Electronic Voting by Members of a Cooperative

## **BACKGROUND**

Under prior law, the members of a cooperative were prohibited from electing the directors of the cooperative via electronic means. Prior law required the members of a cooperative to elect the directors of the cooperative by casting votes in person at a meeting of the members, or, if specifically authorized by the cooperative bylaws, by submitting signed ballots.

## 2015 WISCONSIN ACT 87

The Act authorizes members of a cooperative to elect directors of the cooperative via electronic means, if: (1) the cooperative specifies in its bylaws that electronic voting is permitted; (2) the cooperative is able to authenticate that each vote was cast by a member of the cooperative; and (3) the cooperative gives a vote cast by electronic means the same effect as a vote cast by signed ballot or by a member present at a meeting.

*Effective date:* The Act takes effect on November 13, 2015.

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <a href="http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov">http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov</a>.