



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2003 Assembly Bill 18

**Assembly Amendments 1 and 2
and Senate Amendment 1**

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Currently, the number of county board supervisors for a county is established once every 10 years in conjunction with the federal decennial census and resulting reapportionment. Section 59.10 (2) (a) and (3) (b), Stats. Once the number of county board supervisors is established, the number may not be changed until the next decennial reapportionment. Section 59.10 (3) (c), Stats.

Assembly Bill 18 authorizes the county board in a county with a population of at least 500,000 (currently, Milwaukee County), by a 2/3rds vote of all county board members, to decrease the size of the county board between each decennial federal census, but not more frequently than once every four years. Currently, the Milwaukee County Board has 25 supervisors.

Assembly Amendment 1 eliminates the 2/3rds vote requirement for decreasing the number of county board supervisors between each decennial federal census. Thus, under the amendment, the board would be able to decrease the number of supervisors by majority vote (i.e., majority of a quorum).

Assembly Amendment 2 limits the proposal's authority to decrease the size of the county board to a decrease and accompanying redistricting plan enacted prior to November 15 of this year. (After that time, the size of the county board may be changed in conjunction with the decennial reapportionment.)

Senate Amendment 1 modifies the language inserted by Assembly Amendment 2. Under Senate Amendment 1, the authority to decrease the size of the Milwaukee County Board and change the redistricting plan may be used not more than once before November 15, 2010. (After that time, the size of the county board may be changed in conjunction with the decennial reapportionment.)

Assembly Amendment 1, offered by the Assembly Committee on Urban and Local Affairs, was adopted by the Assembly on a voice vote on March 11, 2003.

Assembly Amendment 2, offered by Representatives Stone and Krug, was adopted by the Assembly by a vote of Ayes, 74; Noes, 20 on March 11, 2003.

Senate Amendment 1, offered by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security, Veterans and Military Affairs and Government Reform, was recommended for adoption by the committee, and the amended bill was recommended for concurrence by the committee, both on votes of Ayes, 5; Noes, 0; on April 30, 2003. The Senate adopted Senate Amendment 1, and concurred in the bill as amended, both on voice votes, on May 6, 2003.

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