

WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2005 Assembly Joint Resolution 3

Assembly Amendment 2

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2005 Assembly Joint Resolution 3 proposes to amend the state constitution to require counties to elect county clerks and treasurers every four years, and changes the terms of office from two to four years for district attorneys, coroners, elected surveyors, registers of deeds, treasurers, county clerks, and clerks of circuit court.

The proposed constitutional amendment was first considered by the 2003 Legislature in 2003 Assembly Joint Resolution 10, which became 2003 Enrolled Joint Resolution 12.

Assembly Amendment 2 modifies the ballot question in the joint resolution. This type of amendment does not affect the "second consideration" status of the constitutional amendment. [See Joint Rule 57 (2) (a).]

The joint resolution contains the following ballot question:

Shall section 4 of article VI and section 12 of article VII of the constitution be amended to provide that district attorneys, coroners, elected surveyors, registers of deeds, treasurers, county clerks, and clerks of circuit court be elected to 4-year terms?

Assembly Amendment 2 separates the ballot question into seven separate questions so that there is a separate question for each officer's term. For example, the first ballot question is: "Shall section 4 of article VI of the constitution be amended to provide that district attorneys be elected to 4-year terms?"

Legislative History

Assembly Amendment 2 was offered by Representatives M. Williams and Kessler and was adopted by the Assembly on a voice vote on February 15, 2005.

AS:rv