WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
AMENDMENT MEMO

2013 Assembly Bill 89	**Assembly Amendment 1**

Memo published: **October 16, 2013**   *Contact*: **Katie Bender-Olson, Staff Attorney (266-2988)**

Current Law

Current law requires municipalities with a population of 35,000 or more to report all election returns by ward, even when multiple wards are combined into one polling place for voting.

Assembly Bill 89

Assembly Bill 89 allows a municipality with a population of 35,000 or more to combine election returns for any ward having a population of less than 20 with returns for any adjacent ward, unless separate returns are required to determine the results of the election. The municipality may not combine wards, however, if the total population of the combined wards would exceed the applicable population range limits for wards in that municipality. The bill provides a method by which a municipal clerk may estimate a ward population for purposes of combining election returns when the ward population cannot be determined from census results.

Assembly Amendment 1

Assembly Amendment 1 replaces a reference to wards having a population of "less than 20," and instead, applies to wards having a population of "20 or less."

Bill History

Assembly Amendment 1 was offered by Representative Bernier on March 26, 2013. The Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections voted unanimously to recommend adoption of the amendment on October 10, 2013. The committee then voted unanimously to recommend passage of Assembly Bill 89, as amended.

KBO:ksm