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# Wisconsin Legislative Council

## AMENDMENT MEMO

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**Contact:** Katie Bender-Olson, Principal Attorney

**2023 Senate Bill 822**

**Assembly Amendment 1**

### **2023 SENATE BILL 822, AS ENGROSSED**

Currently, candidates for state office and committees that support or oppose them register and file campaign finance reports with the Wisconsin Ethics Commission (WEC). In contrast, candidates for local office and committees that support or oppose local candidates and referendums register and file campaign finance reports with local clerks. Senate Bill 822, as engrossed, requires all state and local candidates and committees to register and file campaign finance reports with the WEC. The changes under the bill take effect on July 1, 2025.

### **ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1**

Assembly Amendment 1 adds certain protections for election officials to the bill. First, the amendment protects the personally identifiable information of election officials and election registration officials from disclosure under the public records law, but still allows access to an official's name, city, and state.

Second, the amendment provides whistleblower protections against retaliatory employment actions for county clerks, municipal clerks, and election officials who lawfully report election fraud or irregularities.

Finally, the amendment creates a crime of battery to an election official that increases the existing penalty for battery to a Class I felony when the victim is an election official, election registration official, municipal clerk, or county clerk acting in his or her official capacity.

### **BILL HISTORY**

Assembly Amendment 1 was offered by Representative Krug on February 22, 2024. On that same date, the Assembly adopted the amendment and concurred in Senate Bill 822, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 97; Noes, 0.

For a full history of the bill, visit the Legislature's [bill history page](#).

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