



Legislative Fiscal Bureau

One East Main, Suite 301 • Madison, WI 53703 • (608) 266-3847 • Fax: (608) 267-6873

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Joint Committee on Finance

Paper #272

Minor Policy and Technical Changes -- Sum Sufficient Reestimate (Elections Board)

Base Agency

CURRENT LAW

The Elections Board has a sum sufficient GPR-funded appropriation to reimburse municipalities for additional costs incurred to adjust polling hours to begin at 7 a.m., at any election held after April 29, 2006. Only municipalities that maintained polling hours beginning later than 7 a.m. prior to April 29, 2006, are eligible to file claims to receive these reimbursements. Any municipal claim must be accompanied by substantiation of all costs incurred. The Board must audit the claim and provide reimbursement if the Board finds that: (a) the costs have been incurred by the municipality; and (b) the costs would not have been incurred but for the requirement to open polling places at 7 a.m. No municipal claim is payable unless the claim is filed with the Board, together with appropriate substantiation, within 60 days following the date on which the costs are incurred. The provisions of 2005 Wisconsin Act 333 created this new reimbursement requirement and the associated GPR-funded sum sufficient appropriation, but estimated expenditures from the new sum sufficient appropriation at \$0 annually.

GOVERNOR

No provision.

MODIFICATION

Reestimate the sum sufficient election-related cost reimbursement appropriation by \$80,000 in 2007-08, and \$160,000 in 2008-09, based on Board payment experience subsequent to the passage of Act 333. Beginning with the September, 2006, primary election, the Board is

expending approximately \$35,000 per election to reimburse municipalities for the cost of establishing uniform poll hours, but is anticipating these costs to rise to \$40,000 per election as more municipal officials learn of the ongoing availability of this reimbursement funding. In 2007-08, municipal reimbursement costs will be incurred for the 2008 presidential preference primary and the 2008 spring election, while in 2008-09, municipal reimbursement costs will be incurred for the 2008 fall primary, the 2008 general election, the 2009 spring primary, and the 2009 spring election.

	Change to Bill Funding	Change to Base Funding
GPR	\$240,000	\$240,000

Prepared by: Paul Onsager