



Bill Position
University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents
2013-14 Legislative Session

SB 267

Identifying Documents for Voter Proof of Residence

LEGISLATION

SB 267

(Lazich/Bernier) Current law requires certain voters to provide proof of residence when registering to vote and specifies the documents that may be used as proof of residence. Current law further provides that election officials must record certain information relating to proof of residence on the poll list or separate list. Election officials must record the type of identifying document submitted and, if the document includes a number which applies only to the individual holding that document (e.g., a bank account number), the officials must also record that number on the poll list or separate list.

With the adoption of Senate Amendment 2, a number of changes were made to SB 267. The amended bill provides that the clerk or other individual authorized to accept a voter registration form must also record the name of the entity or institution that issued the identifying document submitted as proof of residence, in addition to recording the type of identifying document submitted.

The amended bill also eliminates the requirement that election officials record on the poll list or separate list a number that applies only to the individual holding the document submitted as proof of residence. In addition, this information will only be recorded on the voter’s registration form and not on the poll list or separate list.

Finally, Senate Amendment 2 specifies that voter registration forms must include a space where the clerk “shall” record the type of document submitted as proof of residence, the name of the entity or institution that issued the document and a number that applies only to the individual holding the document, if the document includes such a number.”

Introduced: 8/21/2013

UW SYSTEM POSITION

AMEND:

Currently, UW System student identification cards presented along with supplemental documentation (i.e. fee payment receipt) can be submitted as proof of residence for voting purposes. Under this bill, the unique numbers on campus student identification cards must be recorded on the voter registration form. This collection and public disclosure of student ID numbers raises serious privacy concerns.

Four UW System campuses publish 16-digit credit/debit card numbers on student ID cards that can be used to make purchases with those accounts. Additionally, most student ID card numbers allow students to access 1) financial information, such as tuition, financial aid, campus stored value accounts, dining accounts, and bookstore accounts, and 2) academic information, such as, transcripts, library records, email, and web services.

Students at some UW institutions can use their student ID card numbers along with their names to access certain sensitive information via the telephone. If given access to a student ID card number and a student name, third parties would be able to reset student passwords at some UW institutions to get access to that information electronically. At some other institutions, resetting a password would require a date of birth, which is frequently available online, and/or the last four digits of the social security number.

The disclosure of student ID numbers could compromise student privacy, increase identity theft, and increase administrative costs to deal with these issues. **Therefore, the UW System is requesting that SB 267 be AMENDED** to either:

- **Exclude the collection or disclosure of student ID numbers, or**
- **Permit only the collection and disclosure of the last four digits of a student ID number.**