

Government Accountability Board

State of Wisconsin

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Election Officials Ready for April 5 Election

MADISON, WI – The Wisconsin Government Accountability Board is predicting voter turnout of 20 percent for the Spring Election on Tuesday, April 5. Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Voters statewide will be electing a Supreme Court justice. Locally, they will be electing circuit court judges as well as town, village, city, county and school board officials. Voters in Assembly Districts 60 and 94 will also have special partisan primary elections for the May 3 Special Election, in which vacant seats will be filled in Assembly Districts 60, 83 and 94.

“Over the last decade, turnout for Spring Elections with contested Wisconsin Supreme Court races has ranged from 18.2 percent to 20.9 percent of eligible voters,” said Kevin Kennedy, director and general counsel of the G.A.B. “We expect this year’s turnout to be in that range.”

Wisconsin has an estimated voting-age population of 4,372,347. Voter turnout and current voter registration statistics are available at <http://gab.wi.gov/elections-voting/statistics>.

Kennedy also reminded voters that while bills to require a photo ID at the polls are currently being considered by the Legislature, the law has not yet changed. “A registered voter is required to give poll workers her name and address to receive a ballot, but state law does not yet allow poll workers to ask for a photo ID in order to vote,” Kennedy said. “Voters who register at the polls must provide an identifying document, which may be a photo ID, to establish proof of residence.”

Elections Division Administrator Nat Robinson reminded voters and clerks that the G.A.B. will be open for extended hours for the election. On April 1, 4 and 6, the agency will be open from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., and on Election Day from 6:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.

“We encourage voters to make their opinions count at every level of government,” said Robinson. “The Spring Election provides them an opportunity to make their voices heard from local town halls and courthouses to our state’s highest court.”

Robinson also reminded voters they can find sample ballots, locate their polling places and check their voter registration status online before Election Day at the G.A.B.’s Voter Public Access website: <https://vpa.wi.gov>.

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The Government Accountability Board (G.A.B.) is responsible for administration and enforcement of campaign finance, elections, ethics and lobbying laws in Wisconsin. The G.A.B. is made up of six non-partisan, former judges and is supported by an agency of non-partisan staff members.