
1997 Wis Eth Bd 14
EMPLOYMENT CONFLICTING WITH OFFICIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The Ethics Board: (1) advises that the Ethics Code does not require an appointed official of a state agency to resign if the official runs for election to public office; and (2) reaffirms the advice given in 1997 Wis Eth Bd 7.

¶ 1. You have asked about the propriety of an appointed official of a state agency establishing a committee to explore running for election to public office.

¶ 2. The matter about which you have asked is a personnel matter not governed by Wisconsin's Ethics Code. Nothing in the Ethics Code requires an appointed official of a state agency to resign if the official runs for election to public office. Whether the official may simultaneously retain his position with the agency and seek election to a government position rests in the discretion of the official's appointing authority.

¶ 3. The Ethics Board reaffirms its recent opinion addressing a like matter, 1997 Wis Eth Bd 7; and commends it as a guide for the agency. (September 26, 1997)

WR990