

# State of Wisconsin\Government Accountability Board

212 East Washington Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Post Office Box 7984  
Madison, WI 53707-7984  
Voice (608) 266-8005  
Fax (608) 267-0500  
E-mail: [gab@wisconsin.gov](mailto:gab@wisconsin.gov)  
<http://gab.wi.gov>



JUDGE WILLIAM EICH  
Chair

KEVIN J. KENNEDY  
Director and General Counsel

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**DATE:** February 3, 2010

**TO:** Wisconsin County Clerks  
Wisconsin Municipal Clerks  
City of Milwaukee Election Commission  
Milwaukee County Election Commission

**FROM:** Nathaniel E. Robinson  
Elections Division Administrator  
Government Accountability Board

**SUBJECT:** Update on Early Voting

Many of you have inquired about the status of the Early Voting Report adopted and modified by the Government Accountability Board during its December 17, 2009, meeting. The purpose of this correspondence is to give you an update.

1. On Monday, January 4, 2010, the Board-adopted Early Voting Report was provided to the Governor, the two Legislative Committees that have oversight of the Board's mission and functions, the two co-chairs and the two ranking Republican members of the Legislative Joint Committee on Finance, and each remaining member of the Legislature.
2. During the Board's January 14, 2010, meeting, held via a teleconference call, Representative Jeff Smith engaged in a dialogue with the Board about Early Voting Report. He told the Board that it is very likely that the Early Voting Report will be addressed by the Legislature during this session.
3. Representative Smith also apprised the Board that changing in-the-Clerk's Office absentee voting from Monday, the day before an election, to the previous Friday, may be a hard sell. He advised the Board that he met with a group of Clerks a day or two prior to the Board's January 14 meeting and advised the Clerks that it would be up to them to convince their respective Legislators to change in-the-Clerk's Office absentee voting from Monday to the previous Friday.
4. We have requested that the Legislative Reference Bureau prepare legislation implementing the recommendations adopted by the Government Accountability Board on December 17, 2009.
5. We are aware that Senator Spencer Cogg and Representative Smith (Chairs of the Senate and Assembly oversight committees) are working on an election administration bill that is slated to include changes to absentee voting, the MOVE Act and other election administration initiatives. We understand that bill is being prepared by the Legislative Reference Bureau.

The Board-adopted Early Voting Report is moving through the legislative process. We will continue to keep you informed of its progress. As always, please let me know if you have questions. Thank you.

cc: Kevin J. Kennedy  
Director and General Counsel  
Government Accountability Board