

State of Wisconsin\Government Accountability Board

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JUDGE THOMAS H. BARLAND
Chair

KEVIN J. KENNEDY
Director and General Counsel

DATE: April 29, 2011

TO: The Honorable Scott Walker, Governor
Honorable Members, Wisconsin Senate and Assembly

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

SUBJECT: Voter Registration Four-Year Record Maintenance

This message is to inform you of the process the Government Accountability Board is using to perform the statutorily required four-year voter record maintenance in Wisconsin.

Wisconsin statutes §§6.50 (1) and (2) mandate the inactivation of voters who have not voted within the past four years. A mailing is required to be sent to registered voters who have been qualified to vote for the past four years but who have not voted. As stipulated by statute, the mailing notifies voters that if they do not respond within 30 days, their registration will be inactivated – not deleted – from SVRS.

As of April 14, 2011, voters eligible for the Four-Year Voter Record Maintenance were marked with a status of “Active – Suspended (4 Years Notice)” in SVRS. These voters will remain on the poll lists through the scheduled May 3, 2011 Special Election, and in all respects, function like any other active voter.

On April 29, approximately 240,000 voters will be mailed Notice of Suspension of Registration postcards, and will be given 30-days to respond. The Government Accountability Board will pay for printing and postage for all postcards. Municipal clerks will receive postcards returned by the post office and by voters wishing to remain on the registration list. If a voter receives a Notice of Suspension and wishes to remain active, the municipal clerk, or the jurisdiction providing SVRS services for the municipality, must update the voter’s status in SVRS. If 30 days pass without a response, the G.A.B. will inactivate these voter records.

Upon request, the G.A.B. will be happy to provide legislators with a list of voters within their districts who will be sent the Notice of Suspension of Registration postcard. You may direct requests to the G.A.B. Desk at (608) 261-2028, or via email at GABhelpdesk@wi.gov.

Please let me know if we can provide additional information or assistance. Thank you.

cc: Members, Government Accountability Board

Secretary Mike Huebsch
Department of Administration

Nathaniel E. Robinson
Elections Division Administrator