

State of Wisconsin\Government Accountability Board

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



JUDGE MICHAEL BRENNAN
Chair

KEVIN J. KENNEDY
Director and General Counsel

Statement Regarding Release of Early Voting Report

At its meeting of October 5, 2009, the Government Accountability Board received a report on the status of a staff study of early voting recommendations. Staff indicated that a final version of the report and its recommendation would be coming to the Board at its November 9, 2009 meeting. Staff also committed to making the report and recommendation available to the public well before that meeting.

Regrettably, internal vetting has taken longer than anticipated. As a result, the report will be delayed until the Board's December 14, 2009, meeting.

Nathaniel E. Robinson, Elections Division Administrator, said the recommendation will be made available to the public sometime during the first week of November on the Board's web site, giving interested parties about a month to review and comment.

"We would rather do it right than do it fast," Robinson said. "Our staff and Board value informed feedback from our local election partners, Wisconsin's 1,850 municipal and 72 county clerks, as well as the general public. And they need sufficient time to give us that. We will continue to work on finalizing a report that will provide a framework for a productive discussion of the policy issues and options related to early voting and updating the absentee voting process."

Any recommendations adopted by the Board to change current voting procedures will also require approval by the Legislature and the Governor before implementation.

If you have any questions, please contact Reid Magney, Public Information Officer, at (608) 267-7887 or reid.magney@wi.gov.