



## SUMMARY OF APRIL 24, 2012 JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MAIL BALLOT

[Results will be tabulated and available after May 1, 2012.]

### A. ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

*The Co-Chairs of the Joint Legislative Council recommend establishment of 6 Special Committees and appointment of their chairs and vice-chairs as follows:*

1. Special Committee on 911 Communications

*[Rep. Joan Ballweg, Chair and Sen. Robert Jauch, Vice-Chair]*

SCOPE: The Special Committee is directed to review 911 public safety communications in Wisconsin and develop legislation as needed to strengthen and improve the system. The Special Committee shall study: (a) creation of a statewide entity to provide coordination and long-term planning for the system; (b) existing funding sources and projected costs of the system; (c) the training curriculum and requirements for 911 dispatch personnel; (d) establishment of a minimum 911 service standard; (e) methods to upgrade multi-line telephone system technology to enable responders to locate calls originating from large or multi-location facilities; and (f) best practices around the country for potential implementation in Wisconsin.

2. Special Committee on Permanency for Young Children in the Child Welfare System

*[Rep. Samantha Kerkman, Chair and Sen. Mary Lazich, Vice-Chair]*

SCOPE: The Special Committee is directed to study current law relating to permanency for children under the age of eight who are placed or at risk of being placed outside of their home, such as in foster care, to determine whether modifications could be made to reduce the length of time it takes to achieve permanency and to improve outcomes for these children. The committee shall also determine how current law may be modified to encourage the placement of younger children with a relative as an option for permanency or support.

3. Special Committee on Improving Educational Opportunities in High School  
*[Sen. Luther Olsen, Chair and Rep. Paul Farrow, Vice-Chair]*

SCOPE: The Special Committee is directed to develop legislation to create and enhance opportunities for both lower and higher achieving students in high school. The committee shall: evaluate current options available to high school students for both career and technical education and post-secondary enrollment, including the Youth Options Program; examine both career and technical education and post-secondary enrollment options available to high school students in other states; and determine how to promote coordination between high schools, technical colleges, universities, and employers to ensure that high school students have the skills necessary to meet the workforce needs of employers in this state.

4. Special Committee on Legal Interventions for Persons With Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias

*[Rep. Dan Knodl, Chair and Rep. Penny Bernard Schaber, Vice-Chair]*

SCOPE: The Special Committee is directed to review and develop legislation to clarify the statutes regarding guardianship, protective placement, involuntary commitment, and involuntary treatment as they apply to vulnerable adults with a dementia diagnosis who may or may not have a co-occurring psychiatric diagnosis.

5. Special Committee on Supervised Release and Discharge of Sexually Violent Persons

*[Rep. Pat Strachota, Chair and Sen. Alberta Darling, Vice-Chair]*

SCOPE: The Special Committee is directed to review the current process for granting supervised release and discharging persons who have been committed as sexually violent persons under ch. 980, Stats. The committee shall: determine what level of judicial input regarding the determination whether to grant a sexually violent person supervised release or discharge from a civil commitment under ch. 980 is appropriate; review the criteria for determining whether a person is fit for supervised release and determine whether this criteria should be modified; and review the criteria for determining whether a person should be discharged from his or her civil commitment to determine whether the criteria are appropriate.

6. Special Committee on Reporting Child Abuse and Child Neglect

*[Sen. Alberta Darling, Chair and Sen. Jennifer Shilling, Vice-Chair]*

SCOPE: The Special Committee is directed to conduct a recodification of s. 48.981, Stats., Wisconsin's child abuse and child neglect reporting

requirements to reorganize the statute in a logical manner, renumber and retitle certain subsections, consolidate related provisions, modernize language, resolve ambiguities in language, and make other necessary organizational changes. The committee shall also: recommend changes to current law regarding who is required to report suspected abuse or neglect of children and the circumstances under which such a report is mandated; and study the reporting of suspected abuse of students at institutions of higher education.

## **B. BIENNIAL APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON STATE-TRIBAL RELATIONS**

*The Co-Chairs of the Joint Legislative Council recommend that Rep. Jeffrey Mursau serve as chair and Sen. Kathleen Vinehout serve as vice-chair of the Special Committee on State-Tribal Relations.*

SCOPE: The committee is directed to study issues relating to American Indians and the American Indian tribes and bands in this state and develop specific recommendations and legislative proposals relating to these issues. [s. 13.83 (3), Stats.]

## **C. CONTINUATION OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REVIEW OF EMERGENCY DETENTION AND ADMISSION OF MINORS UNDER CHAPTER 51**

*The Co-Chairs of the Joint Legislative Council recommend that Sen. Mary Lazich serve as chair and Rep. Sandy Pasch serve as vice-chair of the Special Committee on Review of Emergency Detention and Admission of Minors Under Chapter 51.*

SCOPE: The Special Committee is directed to review the following provisions in ch. 51, Stats.: (a) the appropriateness of, and inconsistencies in, the utilization of emergency detention procedures under s. 51.15, Stats., across this state, and the availability and cost of emergency detention facilities; (b) the inconsistent statutory approaches to emergency detention between Milwaukee County and other counties in the state; and (c) the inconsistent application of procedures relating to admission of minors under s. 51.13, Stats., as modified by 2005 Wisconsin Act 444.

## **D. SYMPOSIA SERIES ON STATE INCOME TAX REFORM INFORMATION**

*The Co-Chairs of the Joint Legislative Council have asked Representative Robin Vos to chair and Representative Dale Kooyenga to vice chair a steering committee to develop a symposia series on state income tax reform information.*

SCOPE: The steering committee is directed to: conduct information symposia and develop recommendations regarding Wisconsin's income tax code. The committee shall: review Wisconsin's current income tax code, the income tax codes of other states, and previously proposed methods for state tax code reform; consider the social and economic effects of tax code reforms as applied to individual and corporate taxpayers as well as the fiscal effects on state revenues; and develop recommendations, in the form of a committee report, for income tax reform that would improve economic growth for residents and businesses in the State of Wisconsin.