

Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition

Are You Ready for the Presidential Election?
The Power of the Disability Vote



About the Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition

- ▶ We are a non-partisan effort to help ensure full participation in the entire electoral process of voters with disabilities, including registering to vote, casting a vote, and accessing polling places.
- ▶ The Coalition is coordinated by Disability Rights Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities. Members include people with disabilities, community agencies, and other partners.

Did you know?

If people with disabilities voted at the same rate as people without disabilities - **that would be 1.75 million more votes!!**

- ▶ Elected officials make decisions on things that are important to us.
- ▶ It shows elected officials that we care and are paying attention.
- ▶ It may change the way that an elected official votes on an issue.
- ▶ Local elections are as important as national.
- ▶ It's your civic responsibility!

Can I still vote if I have a guardian?

In Wisconsin, a person under guardianship retains the right to vote unless the court expressly removes it.

- ▶ To find out if you have the right to vote:
 - ask the guardian to look at the “Determination and Order on Petition for Guardianship Due to Incompetency” (GN-3170) form.
 - Contact the Municipal Clerk. The Clerk can check the list they receive from the state of individuals adjudicated incompetent and ineligible to vote.
- ▶ See resources on voting and guardianship at www.disabilityvote.org.

What will be on my ballot?

US President

US Senate

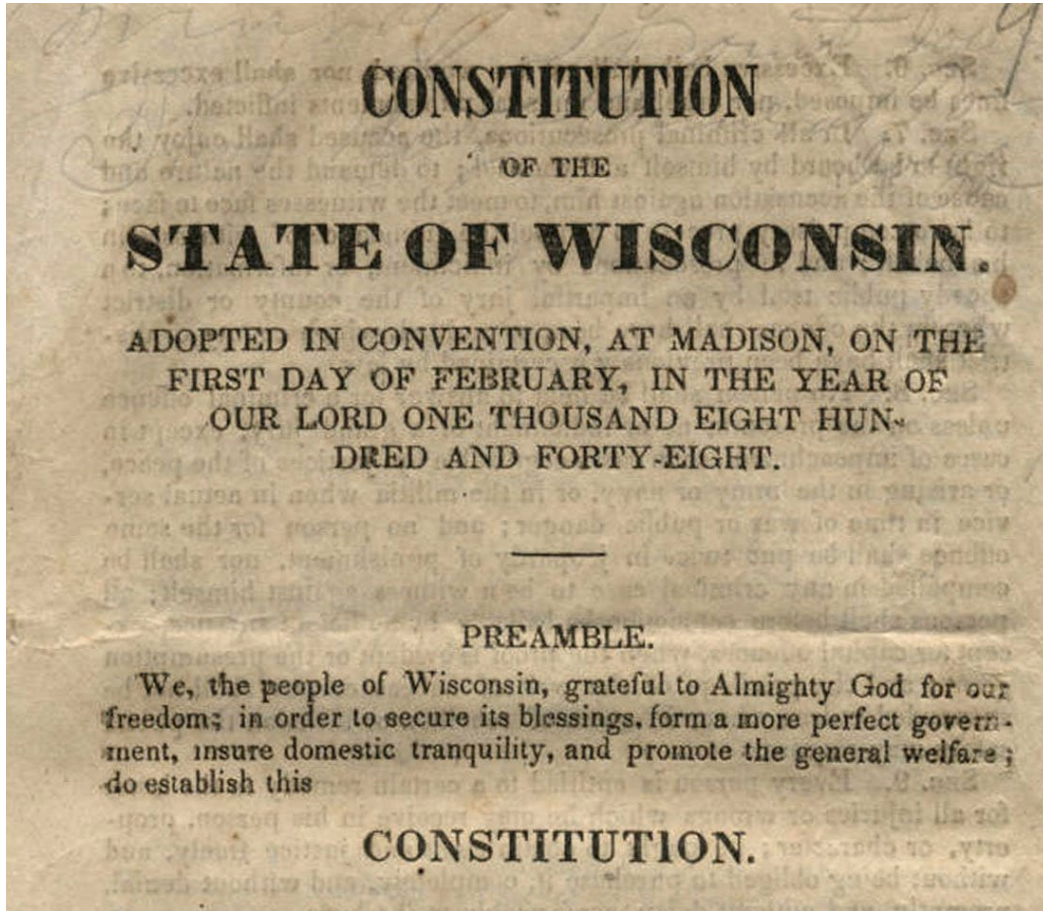
US House

State Senate

State Assembly

Other local elections

Constitutional Amendments



Constitutional Amendments

Overview of Constitutional Amendments

A **constitutional amendment** is a change to the constitution. It is an addition or alteration to the constitution.

In Wisconsin, a constitutional amendment must pass the Legislature in two consecutive sessions and be approved by voters in a statewide election before it is officially added to the state Constitution.

November 5, 2024 Constitutional Amendment on the Ballot

✘ Question:

“Eligibility to vote. Shall section 1 of article III of the constitution, which deals with suffrage, be amended to provide that only a United States citizen age 18 or older who resides in an election district may vote in an election for national, state, or local office or at a statewide or local referendum?”

What does a “Yes” or a “No” vote mean?

A **“yes” vote** - means that you want to change our state constitution to remove the guarantee that **“every”** U.S. citizen has the right to vote. A yes vote will change the wording to **“only”** U.S. citizens have the right to vote. This sounds the same, but it is a subtle change.

A **“no” vote** - means that you do not want the constitution to change. You want the state constitution to say that **“every”** U.S. citizen has the right to vote.

Important Registration Deadlines

- Online or by mail: **October 16**
- In person at Municipal Clerk's Office: **November 1**
- At your polling place: **November 5**

How Do I Register to Vote?

- ▶ **Online** at myvote.wi.gov. Requires Photo ID. Up to 20 days before the election.
- ▶ **Mail**. Up to 20 days before Election Day. Mail completed form to your municipal clerk.
- ▶ **In person**, at the municipal clerk's office through the Friday before the election. Must provide proof of residence.
- ▶ **At your polling place** on Election Day. Must provide proof of residence and photo ID.
- ▶ For voters who live in a care facility, they may be able to register to vote with a Special Voting Deputy who is also appointed as an Election Registration Official.

How Will You Vote?

- ▶ In person on election day
- ▶ Absentee
- ▶ Early In Person

How do I Vote In Person?

Be Prepared!

- ▶ Check your polling place.
- ▶ Preview your ballot.
- ▶ Check your voter registration.
- ▶ Curbside voting- call ahead.
- ▶ Transportation - plan ahead.
- ▶ Know your rights.

Bring your photo ID.

Questions, problems or complaints?

- ▶ Talk to the Chief Election Inspector
- ▶ Call DRW Voter Hotline 844-347-8683

How can I vote absentee?

- ▶ Request as soon as possible!
- ▶ Follow directions carefully!
- ▶ You can request assistance
- ▶ You will need a witness
- ▶ Return your ballot as soon as possible!
 - Must be delivered to your clerk, drop box or polling place no later than 8 pm on Election Day.

Today's date: month day year

X **▲ Signature of Voter ▲**
(All voters must sign. If a voter is unable to sign, an assistant may sign the voter's name for them. The assistant must also sign their own name under the Certification of Assistant.)

3 Have your witness sign and write their address (below).
CERTIFICATION OF WITNESS (Required!)
I, the undersigned witness, subject to the penalties for false statements of Wis. Stat. § 12.60(1)(b), certify that I am an adult U.S. citizen and that the above statements are true and the voting procedure was executed as stated. I am not a candidate for any office on the enclosed ballot (except in the case of an incumbent Municipal Clerk). I did not solicit or advise the voter to vote for or against any candidate or measure. I further certify that the name and address of the voter is correct as shown.

1. **▲ Signature of ONE Witness – an adult, U.S. citizen ▲**
(If witnesses are Special Voting Deputies, both must sign.)

2. _____

▲ Address of Witness – REQUIRED ▲
(street number or first, second, or third street name, street name, city, town, village, or postal route and box number, municipality, state and zip code.)

4 Mail back your ballot to your clerk, drop box or polling place 4-5 days for delivery to be sure that your ballot is received by Election Day. Ballots received after Election Day will NOT be counted.

Wisconsin, WI 53202 | 414-286-3491 | www.milwaukee.gov

How do I request an absentee ballot?

- ▶ **Online:** myvote.wi.gov/en-us/VoteAbsentee
 - The first time you request an absentee ballot online, you must upload your photo ID.
- ▶ **By Mail:** Download the Application for Absentee Ballot from the Wisconsin Election Commission web site. Mail the completed form and a copy of your acceptable photo ID to your municipal clerk.
- ▶ **By Email:** Email your clerk your request with your full name, Wisconsin voting address, the election you want a ballot for or if requesting for the calendar year and mailing address if different than voting address. Include a copy of your photo ID unless it is already on file, or you are exempt by law.
- ▶ **In-person:** Apply for an absentee ballot at your clerk's office.

What is the absentee ballot witness supposed to do?

- ▶ Verify that you completed the absentee ballot but cannot tell you who or what to vote for.
- ▶ The witness should see you complete your ballot but should not see the choices you make on your ballot.
- ▶ Sign the certificate envelope on the line marked “Signature of Witness” and write their full address underneath the witness signature.
- ▶ You (or your assistant) must sign and date the certificate on the return envelope on the line marked “Signature of Voter”.

Today's date: month day year

X **▲ Signature of Voter ▲**
(All voters must sign. If a voter is unable to sign, an assistant may sign the voter's name for them. The assistant must also sign their own name under the Certification of Assistant.)

3 Have your witness sign and write their address (below).

CERTIFICATION OF WITNESS (Required)
I, the undersigned witness, subject to the penalties for false statements of Wis. Stat. § 12.60(1)(b), certify that I am an adult U.S. citizen and that the above statements are true and the voting procedure was executed as stated, I am not a candidate for any office on the enclosed ballot (except in the case of an incumbent Municipal Clerk). I did not solicit or advise the voter to vote for or against any candidate or measure. I further certify that the name and address of the voter is correct as shown.

1. **▲ Signature of ONE Witness – an adult, U.S. citizen ▲**
(If witnesses are Special Voting Deputies, both must sign.)

2. **▲ Address of Witness – REQUIRED ▲**
(street number or freight route and box number, municipality, state and zip code.)

4 Mail back by _____ and after Election Day will NOT be counted.

milwaukee, WI 53202 | 414-286-3491 | www.milwaukee.gov

Important Absentee Voting Deadlines

- **Request Absentee Ballot: October 31**
- **Return Absentee Ballot: November 5, 8 p.m.**
- **Early voting may begin October 22**

In Person Absentee Voting (Early Voting)

- ▶ You can vote in-person absentee at your local municipal clerk's office or other designated location.
- ▶ You will vote your ballot immediately and return it to the clerk's staff. You are not allowed to take the ballot out of the clerk's office.
- ▶ You will need to show your photo ID.
- ▶ Each municipality sets the dates and hours of in-person absentee voting for their municipality. Call your municipal clerk for times.
- ▶ In-person absentee voting cannot occur more than two weeks before an election. It may begin October 22nd.

Stories from Voters with Disabilities



What are my key rights as a voter with a disability?

- ▶ Right to vote **privately and independently**.
- ▶ Right to **access** the polling place.
- ▶ Right to use the **accessible voting machine** at your polling place.
- ▶ Right to **ask for accommodations**, such as a chair to sit in rather than standing in line, signature guide, magnifying glass, assistance stating your name and address.
- ▶ Right to **assistance** marking your ballot (just not your employer or your union representative)

What is an accessible voting machine?

- ▶ Each polling place is required to have at least one accessible voting system.
- ▶ The accessible voting system must provide the opportunity for voters to vote privately and independently.
- ▶ Anyone can use the accessible voting system.
- ▶ Elections officials must make sure it's functioning properly in each election, and that election officials are trained to operate them.



More Rights

- ▶ You have the right to **Curbside Voting**, if you can't get into your polling place because of a disability.
- ▶ You can **file a complaint** if you feel your rights have been violated.
- ▶ If you make a mistake, you can **request another ballot** from the election officials.
- ▶ You may bring a “**notes sheet**” into the polling place.
- ▶ **No one should tell you how to vote.**

A graphic with a black background and a white border. The text "DISABILITY RIGHTS" is in red and white, "ARE" is in white inside a blue circle, and "CIVIL RIGHTS" is in red and white.

DISABILITY RIGHTS
ARE CIVIL RIGHTS

How can I be an informed voter?

- ▶ Know what will be on your ballot by looking it up on myvote.wi.gov.
- ▶ Learn about the candidates. Visit:
 - Vote 411: Vote411.org
 - Ballotpedia: Ballotpedia.org
 - Wisconsin Vote: wisconsinvote.org
- ▶ Follow the Disability Vote Coalition.
 - Sign-up for our E-newsletter and find resources on our website: disabilityvote.org
 - Follow our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/wisconsin Disability Vote

Voting Resources [1/2]

Disability Vote Coalition:

- ▶ Website: www.disabilityvote.org
- ▶ Facebook: www.facebook.com/wisconsin Disability Vote

DRW Voter Hotline:

- ▶ Call 844-DIS-VOTE (347-8683)
- ▶ Email info@disabilityvote.org

Your Municipal Clerk

Find your municipal clerk using the My Municipal Clerk search at myvote.wi.gov/en-us/MyMunicipalClerk.

Voting Resources [2/2]

Wisconsin Elections Commission

- ▶ Call: 1-866-VOTE-WIS
- ▶ E-mail: elections@wi.gov
- ▶ Visit: elections.wi.gov

My Vote Wisconsin

Visit www.myvote.wi.gov for election, polling place, and ballot information, voter registration, requesting absentee, and more.

Getting a Photo ID

- ▶ Learn more at Bring It to the Ballot: www.bringit.wi.gov
- ▶ Wisconsin DMV Voter ID hotline: 844-588-1069
- ▶ Voter ID Helpline: 608-285-2141