



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF WISCONSIN
EDUCATION NETWORK**

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To: Assembly Committee on Election and Campaign Reform

Re: Statement on Assembly Bill 525

Much of the proposed legislation appears to simplify and make uniform the process of voting. However, we oppose the provision that would not allow clerks to return absentee ballots with faulty certificates to the elector if there is sufficient time for the elector to correct the problem.

With the new and more complex procedures for casting a mailed absentee ballot, there is a heightened chance of voter error. This will result in many absentee ballots not being counted.

Current law does not *require* clerks to return incorrectly submitted absentee ballots, but many clerks do so when there is sufficient time to notify the elector and for the elector to correct the problem. This not only gives electors a better chance of having their ballot counted, it also educates them so they can get it right in future elections. This is simply good voter education and service.

The League of Women Voters opposes AB 525 and urges you to oppose it, or at least amend it to eliminate this provision.

Thank you.