

## CO-SPONSORSHIP MEMORANDUM

**To:** Legislative Colleagues  
**From:** Rep. Scott Allen,  
Sen. Romaine Robert Quinn  
**Date:** July 13, 2023  
**RE:** Co-sponsorship of LRB-0468/LRB-3863 relating to: *requiring a watermark on mailed absentee ballots.* .

**DEADLINE:** July 25, 2023 at 12pm



### **Watermarks on Absentee Ballots**

Absentee ballots, as allowed under current Wisconsin law, are extremely convenient, but they are vulnerable to fraud.

Now, more than ever, our democracy relies on our citizens having faith in our election process. This bill would add an extra layer of security for mail-in ballots by requiring absentee ballots to have watermarks on them so copies cannot be made. This is much like current federal law that puts watermarks on U.S. currency to prevent counterfeiting.

To co-sponsor this bill, please respond to this email or contact the office of Rep. Allen at x9197 or Sen. Quinn at x6-3510. Cosponsors will be added to both versions of the bill unless otherwise specified.

### ***Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau***

*This bill requires that all absentee ballots mailed to eligible voters contain a watermark that identifies the ballot as an official absentee ballot.*

*For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.*