



November 4, 2025

Re: 2025 Assembly Bill 599

Law Forward generally supports creating an opportunity for voters to request automatic receipt of absentee ballots. But by eliminating the longstanding "indefinitely confined" status and imposing the photo ID requirement on everyone who requests absentee ballots without exception, the bill ignores the realities faced by certain voters. And the bill's statement that employees of nonprofit disability rights organizations or licensed caregivers can help submit a photo ID is no answer. Conditioning a disabled voter's ability to exercise the fundamental right to vote on whether a non-governmental third-party is available, willing, and able to help them is inappropriate. If enacted, photo ID would once again be a significant barrier to voting for some of Wisconsin's most vulnerable voters.

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Law Forward is a non-profit law firm focused on protecting and advancing democracy in Wisconsin. We use impact litigation, the administrative process, and public education to protect Wisconsin's fundamental democratic principles, and revive Wisconsin's traditional commitment to clean and open government. Learn more about our work at LawForward.org.