



Amending the Wisconsin State Constitution

The Process:

Constitution Requires:

Pathway 1: (Legislature)

“Any amendment or amendments to this constitution may be proposed in either house of the legislature, and if the same shall be agreed to by a majority of the members elected to each of the two houses, such proposed amendment or amendments shall be entered on their journals, with the yeas and nays taken thereon, and referred to the legislature to be chosen at the next general election, and shall be published for three months previous to the time of holding such election; and if, in the legislature so next chosen, such proposed amendment or amendments shall be agreed to by a majority of all the members elected to each house, then it shall be the duty of the legislature to submit such proposed amendment or amendments to the people in such manner and at such time as the legislature shall prescribe; and if the people shall approve and ratify such amendment or amendments by a majority of the electors voting thereon, such amendment or amendments shall become part of the constitution; provided, that if more than one amendment be submitted, they shall be submitted in such manner that the people may vote for or against such amendments separately.”

Pathway 2: (Convention)

“If at any time a majority of the senate and assembly shall deem it necessary to call a convention to revise or change this constitution, they shall recommend to the electors to vote for or against a convention at the next election for members of the legislature. And if it shall appear that a majority of the electors voting thereon have voted for a convention, the legislature shall, at its next session, provide for calling such convention.”

More info & Resources at: www.WIGreenAmendment.org

What this means - there are two pathways for amending the constitution:

Pathway 1: (Legislature)

Step 1: Any amendment may be proposed in either house of the legislature and if it shall be agreed to by a majority of the members elected to each of the two houses (there 99 members in the WI House & 33 members in the Senate), the amendment shall be referred to the legislature to be chosen at the next general election.

Step 2: Amendment shall be published for three months previous to the time of holding such election and if, in the legislature so next chosen, the amendment is agreed upon by a majority of all of the members elected to each house, then it is submitted to the people.

Step 3: The people approve and ratify amendment by a majority of the electors.

Pathway 2: (Convention)

Step 1: A majority of the senate and assembly shall call for a convention and propose convention question to the electors.

Step 2: Legislature shall, at its next session, provide for calling such convention.