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RSNLT**LAW ALERT**

GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAKES CHANGES TO 2010 ELECTION CALENDAR

PLEASE NOTE IMPORTANT CHANGED DATE

July 8, 2010

School districts and municipalities need to be aware of a crucial changed deadline for adoption of resolutions or ordinances initiating a ballot question for the November 2, 2010 General Election.

Public Act 96-1008, which became effective July 6, 2010, amends Section 28-2(c) of the Election Code to state that resolutions or ordinances initiating the submission of public questions **must be adopted not less than 79 days (previously, 65 days) before a regularly scheduled election** to be eligible for ballot inclusion.

Therefore, the new deadline for adoption of resolutions or ordinances initiating a ballot question is Monday, August 16, 2010. The old deadline of August 30, 2010, should be removed from your calendar.

Note that because the 79th day before the November 2, 2010 General Election falls on Sunday, August 15, 2010, the law permits adoption of a resolution through Monday, August 16, 2010. However, we recommend taking action no later than Friday, August 13, 2010.

P.A. 96-1008 also amends various other parts of the Election Code. Among these additional changes: the first days for filing nomination, public question and objector petitions are now generally 14 days earlier, and the last days for filing seven days earlier, than under previous law. Also, any person may now reproduce, distribute or return applications for absentee ballots, as the new legislation removes the former requirement that absentee ballot applications must be furnished by the election authority.

For further information regarding dates for initiating ballot questions or Public Act 96-1008, please do not hesitate to contact your RSNLT attorney.

M. Neal Smith, an associate in the firm's Joliet office, prepared this *Law Alert*.

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