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**PRESS RELEASE**

For release after March 1, 2012

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## Voter ID Law Explained

Election experts from the Government Accountability Board will be in Menasha on Monday, March 12, to speak at a public meeting about Wisconsin's new Voter Photo ID Law.

The meeting is hosted by the League of Women Voters of Winnebago County, the Elisha D. Smith Public Library, the City of Menasha, the Town of Menasha, and the City of Neenah. It will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Company E Room at the public library in Menasha at 440 First St.

In 2011 the Wisconsin Legislature passed the Voter Photo ID Law, requiring voters to show an acceptable photo ID to receive a ballot. The law also contains other important changes to the voting process, including a longer, 28-consecutive-day residency period and a requirement for voters to sign the poll list.

"These are the most significant changes to Wisconsin's elections since 18-year-olds won the right to vote in 1971," said Kevin Kennedy, Wisconsin's chief elections officer. "There are also important exceptions in the law, which are not widely understood, for some absentee voters who are indefinitely confined for health reasons or who vote by mail on a consistent basis."

The presentation covers what forms of identification are acceptable and how to go about getting a state ID card for free if a voter doesn't currently have an acceptable ID. The G.A.B. staff has produced a wide range of educational materials explaining the Voter Photo ID Law, which will be distributed at the meeting.

Citizens of the Cities of Menasha and Neenah and the Town of Menasha are encouraged to stay after the meeting to register to vote and to sign up for an absentee ballot if they are in need of either service.

Voters are also encouraged to visit the G.A.B.'s website (<http://gab.wi.gov>) for information about the new law. The first election at which a photo ID was required was February 21, 2012, in municipalities running primary elections.