

Assembly adjourns after passing bills backed by municipalities

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The state Assembly today passed bills to ease some processes for local governments before adjourning for the evening.

Among the bills the Assembly passed today was AB 229, which gives local governments more flexibility in how they invest their surpluses.

The chamber also passed SB 94, which changes how city mayors are required to inform common council members of a special meeting. Currently, they need to prepare a written notice that's delivered personally to members or left at their home.

The bill would remove the requirement so mayors can, for example, instead text common council members notifying them of the meetings. Members who prefer the traditional method of getting notified could choose to keep that system.

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Other bills the Assembly passed include:

*AB 188, a bill authored by Rep. Dale Kooyenga and Sen. Howard Marklein that makes several changes to educational requirements for certified public accountants.

*SB 23, which requires people who plant at least five acres of potatoes to only use seed potatoes certified by UW-Madison's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences or an equivalent program.

*and SB 172, which lets pharmacy students with enough experience administer a vaccines to children over six years old if those students are being supervised by a

licensed pharmacist.

Assembly Republicans rejected Dem efforts to call for an extraordinary session that would focus on bills to boost the state economy.

Dems also tried to pull several of their bills from committee but Republicans declined to do so. One of them was a bill that makes the early stage seed and angel investment credit refundable, which Rep. Dana Wachs, D-Eau Claire, said would help grow the economy.

“This bill will feed startups,” said Wachs, who’s considering a run for gov in 2018. “This bill will generate an economy that we can be proud of.”