



# LEAH VUKMIR

## STATE Senator

October 27, 2015  
For Immediate Release

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### **Vukmir Defends Integrity Of Elections**

(Madison, WI) – State Senator Leah Vukmir (R – Wauwatosa), co-author of the legislation that would reform the state’s Government Accountability Board, the agency that oversees campaign finance, lobbying, elections and ethics laws, released the following statement:

*“As frequently referenced in my testimony before the Joint Committees on Elections, the highly respected Legislative Audit Bureau reports illustrated concerns that everyone should see as a problem. These failures are not Republican or Democrat issues. Rather, these are failures of an agency and its staff who frequently operated independent of board input. The GAB routinely made decisions with incomplete or questionable information based on political biases as opposed to the law.”*

*“The recently released documents in a lawsuit against the GAB further expose a troubled agency that was unquestionably determined to act in manner which trampled upon the First Amendment. While the assigned special prosecutor ‘questioned the validity of the case,’ the GAB continued its pursuit of meritless investigations into multiple conservative groups. The Wall Street Journal article today demonstrates just that—the GAB was not acting as a nonpartisan watchdog but as a group with clear political motivations. Kevin Kennedy knows that his days at the GAB are limited and he is now providing last-ditch efforts and excuses to save his job.”*

*“The mere fact that these issues occurred indicate there are structural problems that must be addressed to protect the integrity of our how our elections are run and how those we elect are held accountable in Wisconsin. As an elected official, I cannot fathom how anyone could possibly find the GAB’s conduct acceptable and knowingly sit idle while an arrogant and overtly partisan agency governs elections and ethics in our state.”*

Senator Vukmir represents Milwaukee and Waukesha counties.

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