



# Van H. Wanggaard

Wisconsin State Senator

**EMBARGOED UNTIL SENATE ADJOURNMENT**  
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## **Statement on Passage of Campaign Finance and Government Accountability Board and Reform Bills**

We cannot ignore the multiple courts that have instructed the legislature to rewrite our campaign finance laws. These laws have not been updated since 1974, and recent and not-so-recent court decisions have made our laws a “jumbled mess”. Whole parts of the current law are now unconstitutional. AB 387 preserves the integrity of our elections, updates our law for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, , and is easy for every citizen to understand.

Despite being claimed as a “national model” we cannot ignore the facts of the Government Accountability Board. No other state has followed this model for good reason. The fact is that the Government Accountability Board failed to complete many of its mandated tasks. These tasks range from the very serious, like failing to clean the voter lists and audit voting machines, to the basic, like issuing rules and regulations to administer elections and campaign finance. A nonpartisan audit of the GAB earlier this year also showed that even when rules were issued, they were frequently ignored by the GAB. Voters wouldn’t tolerate this behavior from any other government unit, and they shouldn’t tolerate with the GAB. It’s time to hold the Government Accountability Board accountable.

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