

December 17, 2021

Senator Ron Johnson
328 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Tammy Baldwin
709 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Representative Bryan Steil
1526 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Mark Pocan
1727 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Ron Kind
1502 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Gwen Moore
2252 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Scott Fitzgerald
1507 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Glenn Grothman
1427 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Tom Tiffany
1719 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Mike Gallagher
1230 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Wisconsin Congressional Delegation:

The Wisconsin Legislature has taken important steps to protect the integrity of our elections and the First Amendment rights of our citizens. It is disheartening and shocking to see Congress once again considering legislation, cleverly disguised with the misleading name of “For the People Act,” that would unravel many of these protections we have stood up for in Wisconsin to ensure fair elections. This is a smokescreen attempt to delegitimize elections nationwide, and it should be opposed to the utmost degree by *all* members of Congress.

Over the last ten years, Wisconsin has taken great strides in ensuring the integrity of our elections, while still guaranteeing that every valid vote counts. We’ve implemented safeguards such as requiring a Photo ID, proof of residency for same day registration, and requiring voters who have moved or passed away and no longer eligible to vote at that registered address to be removed from the voter registration rolls. These efforts, along with reforms to the body charged with overseeing our elections, have provided needed confidence in Wisconsin’s election results while ensuring everyone who can legally vote is able to do so.

The so-called “For the People Act” would take away much of this state-level control of our elections and instead force unneeded and unwanted federal mandates into our election process. The Tenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution clearly states: “The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.” Stay in your lane.

Our state and local clerks know best how to fairly run elections with integrity. We do not want or need these federal mandates, such as banning Photo ID and allowing ballot harvesting, in Wisconsin. Our local clerks work diligently to protect our elections – federal mandates will only make elections more difficult to administer.

Unfortunately, Wisconsin is also far too familiar with the effects of partisan witch hunts conducted by overzealous government agencies on citizens. The First Amendment rights of citizens and organizations in our state were unfairly and aggressively targeted by the now defunct Government Accountability Board for years through the unconstitutional John Doe process. Thankfully, we were able to ensure that this unconstitutional infringement on free speech and association does not happen again in our state.

However, the legislation, already unfortunately passed by the House of Representatives, would empower and even encourage the Federal Elections Commission to engage in this exact same behavior, once again threatening the First Amendment rights of all Wisconsinites. As public officials, we all took an oath to uphold the Constitution, and it is clear that this sham Act violates this oath. I hope you Representatives who supported this legislation regret your vote. Senators, it is not too late for you to do the right thing.

This blatant overreach by the national government will do nothing positive for the people of Wisconsin, their First Amendment rights, or our elections. We strongly encourage you to stand up for election integrity and security in our great state and protect the First Amendment rights of free speech and association for all of your constituents by opposing this dangerous legislation.

Sincerely,



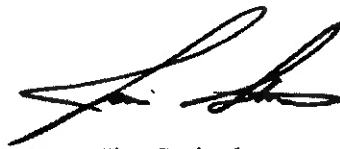
Sen. Kathy Bernier
23rd Senate District



Sen. Devin LeMahieu
9th Senate District



Rep. Robin Vos
63rd Assembly District



Rep. Jim Steineke
5th Assembly District



Sen. Robert Cowles
2nd Senate District



Sen. Dale Kooyenga
5th Senate District




Sen. Alberta Darling
8th Senate District



Sen. Mary Felzkowski
12th Senate District



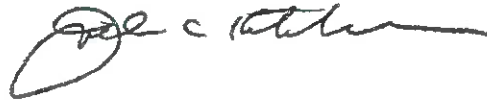
Sen. Roger Roth
19th Senate District



Sen. Van Wangaard
21st Senate District



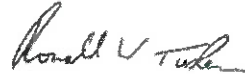
Sen. Eric Wimberger
30th Senate District



Rep. Joel Kitchens
1st Assembly District



Rep. Shae Sortwell
2nd Assembly District



Rep. Ron Tusler
3rd Assembly District



Rep. Dan Knodl
24th Assembly District



Rep. Tyler Vorpapel
27th Assembly District



Rep. Clint Moses
29th Assembly District



Rep. Calvin Callahan
35th Assembly District



Rep. William Penterman
37th Assembly District



Rep. Jeremy Thiesfeldt
52nd Assembly District



Rep. Rachael Cabral-Guevara
55th Assembly District



Rep. Rick Gundrum
58th Assembly District

Rep. Jesse James
68th Assembly District

Rep. Donna Rozar
69th Assembly District

Rep. David Armstrong
75th Assembly District

Rep. James Edming
87th Assembly District

Rep. John Macco
88th Assembly District

Rep. Elijah Behnke
89th Assembly District

Rep. Cindi Duchow
99th Assembly District