



ROBIN J. VOS

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 63rd ASSEMBLY DISTRICT • RACINE COUNTY
ASSEMBLY CO-CHAIR • JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

October 12, 2011

Kevin Kennedy
Director and General Counsel
Government Accountability Board
212 E. Washington Ave.
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Director Kennedy,

I would like to formally request a cost estimate of a statewide recall election. Recently, your office compiled a thorough assessment of the taxpayer cost of conducting this summer's recall elections per my request. Your findings concluded that the total cost exceeded \$2.1 million. With this figure in mind, I believe that Wisconsin taxpayers should know the estimated cost of running a statewide election before petitions are circulated. Taxpayers need this cost estimate so they can make a better informed decision as to how their tax dollars should be spent. This is essential information because the recall election costs will have a direct impact on all county and local government budgets.

An editorial in the Los Angeles Times this morning says that our state should "forget the recall election" since recalls would "worsen partisanship and usually fail" following that state's experience of a gubernatorial recall election. While my efforts to recall the recalls with a constitutional amendment will not impact any recall efforts this year, I hope that taxpayers realize the ramifications that will follow a statewide recall, especially the financial ramifications on their local governments.

Thank you for providing this information to my office and to the taxpayers of Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Robin J. Vos'.

Robin J. Vos
State Representative
63rd Assembly District