



ROBIN J. VOS

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • RACINE COUNTY

January 13, 2012

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

Dear Director Kennedy,

I understand that yesterday the Government Accountability Board (GAB) met to approve the expenditure of funds to purchase software capable of detecting duplications in the recall petitions that will be submitted to you next week. I applaud you and the board for moving swiftly to comply with the recent court order stipulating that you must take affirmative steps to verify duplicative or fake names rather than presuming they are valid, as you had previously planned to do.

However, I write today to make an additional request that when you choose a software vendor, you do so with the goal in mind that there should also be a public, searchable website launched.

These recall petitions are public documents, and just as the state places public contracts and expense reports on line for the taxpayers to see, we should also place these petitions on line. Certainly, the Government Accountability Board staff will have a major challenge ahead of them in verifying every signature. I can't imagine why you wouldn't appreciate the help of citizens all over Wisconsin who better know the names and streets in their own communities much better than a staff person at GAB.

I hope for the sake of transparency in government and the for the protection of the taxpayers of this state, who should not have to needlessly foot the \$9 million cost of this recall, you take every step necessary to make sure that the database of recall petitioners is displayed and searchable on the internet.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robin J. Vos'.

Robin J. Vos
State Representative
Co-Chair, Joint Finance Committee
63rd Assembly District