
From: Redell, Carol <Carol.Redell@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2022 5:13:34 PM
To: Dylan Winters <dylan.winters@americanoversight.org>
Subject: FW: ASM63 - 2021.12.08 - Am Oversight - Communications

EXTERNAL SENDER

***Dylan - I've been having computer issues and wasn't certain if you received the other e-mail with the subject of "reports". I inadvertently switched the 2 attachments for the 2 e-mails sent to you this afternoon – so sorry for any confusion!

Carol Redell/ACC

Dylan Winters
American Oversight
dylan.winters@americanoversight.org

Dear Mr. Winters:

Open records requests are processed through the Assembly Chief Clerk's office for billing purposes only. You submitted an open records request to Representative Vos. The records are being provided in electronic format and, thus, there is no charge for any location or reproduction costs. Accordingly, all records that are responsive to your request are attached to this email.

Carol Redell
Office of the Assembly Chief Clerk
17 West Main Street, Suite 401
Madison, Wisconsin 53703
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From: "Rep.Vos" <Rep.Vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, November 12, 2021, 9:05 AM
To: "Vos, Robin" <Robin.Vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "michlit99@gmail.com" <michlit99@gmail.com>; "Toftness, Jenny" <Jenny.Toftness@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Fawcett, Steve" <Steve.Fawcett@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Joyce, Angela" <Angela.Joyce@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "King, Adam" <Adam.King@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Smith, Kelly" <Kelly.Smith@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Krogstad, Moriah" <Moriah.Krogstad@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Fabick, Abbey" <Abbey.Fabick@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Wolf, Jake" <Jake.Wolf@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Clark, Tyler" <Tyler.Clark@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: FRI AM Update: Evers' office expresses disappointment after lawmakers reject People's Maps Commission redistricting proposals

From: WisPolitics.com <news@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Friday, November 12, 2021 8:09 AM
To: Rep.Vos <Rep.Vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FRI AM Update: Evers' office expresses disappointment after lawmakers reject People's Maps Commission redistricting proposals



FRI AM Update -- 12 Nov. 2021

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[Wisconsin REALTORS Association](#)

From WisPolitics.com ...

-- The gov's office is expressing its disappointment that some Assembly Dems joined Republicans in shooting down proposals from the People's Maps Commission.

Republicans, meanwhile, are knocking Gov. Tony Evers over his plan's failure to win the

backing of the full Assembly Dem caucus.

The Assembly yesterday approved the GOP's maps for legislative and congressional seats on identical 60-38 votes, clearing the way for Evers to act on them.

But before taking them up, GOP leaders forced a vote on the People's Maps Commission plan. It failed 77-21. All Republicans present voted against the maps, while 21 Dems voted in favor and 17 voted against them.

Some Dems complained the proposal would result in fewer majority Black and Hispanic districts than under current law.

Evers spokeswoman Britt Cudaback said the gov believes the maps complied with the Voting Rights Act.

"The governor believes that the people should get to choose their elected officials, not the other way around," Cudaback said. "The literal point of a nonpartisan redistricting commission is for the outcome not to be determined by sitting elected officials."

Meanwhile, Assembly Majority Leader Jim Steineke, R-Kaukauna, yesterday retweeted the gov's Nov. 2 urging for residents to call their lawmakers and urge them to take the commission's proposals.

"We did exactly as you asked [@GovEvers](#), and they were resoundingly rejected by bipartisan supermajorities in both houses," Steineke tweeted.

See the tweet:

<https://twitter.com/jimsteineke/status/1458974115281485829>

See more on yesterday's Assembly debate:

<https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/gop-redistricting-maps-headed-to-evers-following-assembly-passage-veto-expected/>

-- Gov. Tony Evers announced 29 new pardons today, bringing to 307 the total he's issued since taking office.

The majority of the pardons announced today involved drug or theft-related offenses.

"I am proud to grant these 29 pardons today and the more than 300 pardons I've been able to grant since 2019," Evers said in a release. "Reaching this milestone is a tremendous feat, and we'll work to continue this important process."

See the release:

<https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/gov-evers-grants-29-pardons-brings-total-pardons-granted-to-307/>

-- In this week's Democratic radio address, Gov. Tony Evers and his administration recognized Veterans Day and expressed their commitment to supporting Wisconsin's veterans.

"In Wisconsin, no one carries their burdens alone, and our state has resources to help our heroes and the families that have sacrificed alongside of them," said Evers.

Evers mentioned helping veterans with access to health care and finding employment as ways his administration can provide support to veterans and their families.

Read or listen to the address here:

<https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/gov-evers-honors-wisconsins-veterans-on-veterans-day/>

-- In this week's Republican radio address, Rep. Tony Kurtz, R-Wonewoc, thanked his fellow veterans for their service.

"Since the Vietnam War, since 1973, we've had an all-volunteer military. So if you think about it, for almost 50 years, those men and women have volunteered to serve this nation," he said. "Less than 1 percent will wear the uniform, and it's something that we need to appreciate and honor."

Kurtz emphasized that while Veterans Day is a day to thank veterans, we should thank them every day.

Read or listen to the address here:

https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/11112021_GOP_radio_address.pdf

Thursday: WisPolitics Luncheon: Panel Discussion on Wisconsin Redistricting

Join us for an in-person luncheon at The Madison Club on Thursday, Nov. 18 for a discussion about the once-a-decade redrawing of congressional and legislative boundaries in Wisconsin.

The event features a panel discussion with three former legislators who have deep experience in legislative map-making -- Republicans Scott Jensen and Joe Handrick plus Democrat Chuck Chvala -- along with Elizabeth Treviño, Wisconsin state director of allontheline.org.

See additional details and register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wispolitics-luncheon-panel-discussion-on-wi-redistricting-tickets-186304851827>

This luncheon is sponsored by Husch Blackwell, American Family Insurance, Xcel Energy, Walmart, AARP Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Hospital Association.

WisPolitics.com subscribers and members, as well as Madison Club members and their guests, receive discounted pricing for WisPolitics luncheons.

TOP HEADLINES

60-38 Assembly approves GOP redistricting plan; Evers veto near-certain

... Similar to the Senate, [Speaker Vos] introduced [People's Commission maps] as a substitute amendment ... forced Democratic lawmakers to vote publicly ... bashed the commission's maps ... for a lack of majority-minority districts, split communities and a [Dem] gerrymander ... noted ... commission consulted with [out of state] expert ... [Minority Leader Hintz denounced Vos'] "political stunt ... The sole mission of the (2011 maps) ... was partisan power, partisan advantage. The goal was to retain a permanent legislative majority. And guess what, it worked." ... Assembly voted 77-21 against [with 17 Dem defectors, including] * Ortiz-Velez ... [who] criticized [turning majority-minority districts into] "minority opportunity districts" -- which would likely result in more Democratic seats but potentially fewer lawmakers of color. "These maps are illegal and a perversion of justice that cannot stand," she said. * and Cabrera, who denounced focus on process and not] results, which she said "attack the Black and brown community." * and Bowen, who dubbed GOP maps "the same poop in a different toilet." * and Subeck, who said "Republicans are playing political games." * Rep. Meyers said Vos-LeMahieu testimony at only hearing was "liking their own Facebook post." * Rep. Neubauer said GOP map "cements hyper-partisanship. And it results in this body doing very little to materially improve people's lives." * Fair Elections' Chheda: "I've never once had a conversation with Ms. Ortiz-Velez about this issue, and it is clear she has a fundamental misunderstanding of the Voting Rights Act." * Vos: "They are experts at complaining. They have one chance every 10 years to show how they'd (redistrict) differently, and here they are -- and hypocrisy reeks," touted a "robust public process" drawing GOP maps with 482 maps thru its online portal. He and other GOP noted Senate Dems proposed their own maps but Assembly Dems did not. * Speaker Pro Tem August: "This map hits all of the constitutional requirements ... confident ... the governor can sign." Senate sub map had only one defector, Taylor, over poor minority representation. Evers still backs People's maps, will submit them to whichever court ends up deciding. Reviews GOP lean of GOP maps.

<https://captimes.com/f1b38c24-e526-5177-b6dc-5b4b21aac918.html>

As GOP remain unified, WI Dems reveal deep divisions on Evers-backed remaps

... "They hoodwinked us, gaslighted us and they tricked us," Democratic Rep. Sylvia

Ortiz-Velez of Milwaukee said of those backing Evers' maps. ... argued the maps drawn by Evers' commission would violate the federal Voting Rights Act because they would dramatically reduce the number of districts with Black and Hispanic majorities. ... "This is an unlawful act. It's a perversion of justice. They're not going to take away our rights." ... "When it comes to looking at maps, I'm not willing to vote for any map that dilutes and/or erases African-American or Latino representation -- I don't care who wrote it," said Democratic Rep. LaKeshia Myers of Milwaukee before voting against the commission's maps. "I hope and I pray that some of my colleagues on my side of the aisle won't be little turncoats like they were in the Senate," Myers said. [reviews Sen. Taylor's lone Dem vote against People's maps] ... Cudaback said Thursday that Evers set up his commission because he wanted ordinary citizens, not politicians, to draw the maps. "The literal point of a nonpartisan redistricting commission is for the outcome not to be determined by sitting elected officials," she said by email. ... Lawsuits over the maps are already pending ... federal judges have signaled they will wait to see what the state court does before deciding whether to act.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/11/wisconsin-republicans-united-democrats-divided-redistricting-maps/6384216001/>

Vos says he hasn't studied having WI lawmakers take over elections, as Johnson urged

... "The Legislature has to be involved" in overseeing elections, Vos told reporters. "But the idea of somehow that we're going to take over the elections and do all those things I've never studied that. I don't know about it. But that was not our discussion." ... "I have no idea," Vos said of lawmakers' ability to bypass Evers on election matters. "I know that there was a Supreme Court case in the 1960s. That was trying (to sidestep the governor) -- I think it was the Zimmerman case -- and the Supreme Court found that that was not allowed to happen." Vos in August told meeting, "We don't have the ability, under law (to change the electors)," Vos told the group, according to video of the meeting. "If we wanted to change that, we would have to pass a law, have Gov. Evers sign it, to change the process. ... I don't want the Legislature to substitute itself for the electorate," Vos said then. "What if we have a Democrat state Legislature and Donald Trump won the election? I would not want the Democrat state Legislature to say, 'You didn't deserve it, we're going to give it to Joe Biden.' ... I do not want to substitute the will of the people." Reviews Johnson interview, criticism of WEC advice on SVDs.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/11/wisconsin-lawmakers-taking-over-elections-hasnt-been-studied-vos/6385783001/>

Kaul won't take up Schmaling's call for statewide voting probe. But now Gableman is.

... RCSO and many state Republicans have moved to elevate the investigation. Lt. Michael Luell spoke in Madison on Wednesday in front of the Republican-controlled Wisconsin Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections. Luell, who was promoted from sergeant to lieutenant on Monday, is the lead investigator in the case. ... did not attempt to directly speak with the surviving seven Ridgewood residents who were allegedly "taken advantage of. ... because one or more of them were dead," Luell said in an email, "and the other ones could not recognize their own children, remember what

they ate for lunch, or know what day it was. I did not think the interview would be productive. ... an interview would be disrespectful to these victims and their families." ... maintained that his investigation was completely separate from Gableman's investigation. ... "Aren't you here trying to make this a political issue because you can't convince the Racine County district attorney to file charges?" [Spreitzer asked.] Luell replied that "this is an issue for residents of Wisconsin" and that, he alleged, Evers and Kaul (who are both Democrats) "are not responding to this problem." ... While Schmaling said he is recommending charges against only five election commissioners, Luell said others could be charged, including staff at Ridgewood Care Center. ... "It still floors me that the smoking gun in the Racine Sheriff's election probe is that more people in nursing homes voted than they expected. They were so threatened by people participating in the democratic process they decided it must be fraud," state Sen. Chris Larson, D-Milwaukee, tweeted Wednesday. ... Vos on Thursday downplayed comments U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson, R-Wis., made encouraging GOP lawmakers to tell local election officials to ignore [WEC] guidance ... Asked if Republicans plan to follow Johnson's advice, Vos said "the elections commission has to follow the law by working with the Legislature, that's in the statute."

<https://journaltimes.com/55c2bb73-8ee4-5c0f-85cb-f19dbdef43b1.html>

Blow-up at Rittenhouse trial over enlarging photos and video

... over the technology used to zoom in on video and create enlarged images ... [Asst. DA] Kraus argued that the way the images were enlarged [pinch-to-zoom function on an iPad] was the "industry standard" and for the defense to "then try to pretend this is all voodoo magic is preposterous. With all due respect to your honor, I think the defense is trying to take advantage of your lack of knowledge about technology." ... "I will tell you that I totally agree with your comment about my lack of familiarity with these concepts," Judge Bruce Schroeder told the attorneys without the jury present. "This is a difficult concept for me, yes." ... said he was leaving it up to the jury to decide how much weight to give the image. "The fact that I can blow something up on my phone and it's accurate on my phone doesn't mean that the particular program used by the crime lab is doing an accurate job of increasing the size of the image," he told attorneys. ... [State Crime Lab's] Armstrong testified ... that the software program adds pixels to the image and he cannot say with certainty what color the added pixels are. ... "that is a distortion of what, in fact, the original photograph was," Chirafisi said in arguing to keep out the image. Kraus called that a "canard" and a "dishonest argument." ... spokeswoman for Apple did not immediately return a message seeking comment about whether pinch-to-zoom alters an image.

<https://apnews.com/b561bef68dc6aadaadc9b45a1bd93a19>

Rittenhouse prosecutor says judge is not holding defense and state to the same rules

... Schroeder ruled use-of-force expert John Black would be allowed to testify at the trial, but would be limited to speaking about the timing of the events ... [Asst. DA] Binger objected to Black's testimony Thursday, saying Black was on the verge of violating the judge's order. Binger also said he wasn't given enough time by the defense to review Black's statement. ... After nearly 30 minutes of debate, Schroeder said Black's

testimony could continue. ... "Clearly if we tried something like this, there would be quite a kerfuffle," Binger said. Reviews Rittenhouse testimony, Binger halted on cross-ex, defense call for mistrial.

<https://www.wpr.org/prosecutor-kyle-rittenhouse-case-says-judge-not-holding-defense-and-state-same-rules>

Could jury weigh lesser charges for Rittenhouse?

... Binger has struggled to counter Rittenhouse's self-defense arguments ... former Milwaukee County [asst. DA Adams] who isn't involved in the trial, described Binger's case as "incredibly underwhelming. He's got nothing," Adams said. "I just don't understand it. What are we doing here? We're all kind of scratching our heads." ... "[lesser charges] gives the jury negotiation room," he said. "They think something bad happened but they're not convinced the level of force was necessary. And that gives prosecutors two kicks at the cat." ... Prosecutors or defense attorneys can ask Judge Bruce Schroeder to inform jurors as they begin deliberations to consider finding Rittenhouse guilty of lesser charges in lieu of the original counts. The judge would then have to weigh whether the evidence the jury had seen supports those lesser charges before instructing the jury to consider them. ... [still finalizing exact charges,] might ask Schroeder to include a so-called provocation instruction. ... [which could] negate self-defense. ... "That's a pretty clear case of self-defense," said [ex-Waukesha DA] Bucher ... who isn't involved in the case. "When [Grosskreutz] has a handgun (and) was in the process of pointing it, that would give me great pause as to whether I'd even charge that." ... said Rittenhouse's team also could ask jurors to consider second-degree versions ... But Binger has already "muddled" the case with multiple charges and asking jurors to consider even more counts risks confusing jurors further, Bucher said. ... [UW Law prof.] Klingele said. Second-degree reckless endangerment could apply if jurors found that he put someone in harm's way but did so without showing utter disregard for human life, she said.

<https://apnews.com/a1ef20e8e1f69119c22d1dd2c2c49cc9>

Tuesday: WisBusiness.com virtual event on how federally funded university research fuels the Wisconsin economy

Join WisBusiness.com for a free virtual luncheon on Tuesday, Nov. 16, from noon to 1 p.m.m on how federally funded university research fuels the Wisconsin economy.

The event will begin with opening remarks from Tom Still, president of the Wisconsin Technology Council, followed by a panel discussion with university scientists.

Panelists:

- Jeanne Hossenlopp, Marquette University's vice president for research and innovation.

- Sandra McLellan, professor in the School of Freshwater Sciences at UW-Milwaukee.
- Katarina Marie Braun, a UW-Madison medical student who has a PhD in cellular and molecular biology.
- Dr. Shekar N. Kurpad, of the Medical College of Wisconsin.

Partners for this event include: Marquette University, UW-Madison, UW-Milwaukee and the Medical College of Wisconsin.

Register here: <https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/nov-16-wisbusiness-com-virtual-event-on-how-federally-funded-university-research-fuels-the-wisconsin-economy-2/>

TODAY'S CALENDAR

<https://www.wispolitics.com/category/events/>

- 7:30 a.m. - 9 a.m.: Women in Technology presents, "Transforming Teams into the Future of Work."

<https://www.witwisconsin.com/event-4514929>

- 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.: Rep. Kitchens fundraiser.

[https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/rep-kitchens-fundraiser-dinner-with-former-lt-gov-
kleefisch/](https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/rep-kitchens-fundraiser-dinner-with-former-lt-gov-kleefisch/)

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[Election Blog](#) | [Quorum Call](#) | [DC Wrap](#)

From: "Rep.Vos" <Rep.Vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 15, 2021, 8:48 AM
To: "Vos, Robin" <Robin.Vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "michlit99@gmail.com" <michlit99@gmail.com>; "Toftness, Jenny" <Jenny.Toftness@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Fawcett, Steve" <Steve.Fawcett@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Joyce, Angela" <Angela.Joyce@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "King, Adam" <Adam.King@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Smith, Kelly" <Kelly.Smith@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Fabick, Abbey" <Abbey.Fabick@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Krogstad, Moriah" <Moriah.Krogstad@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Wolf, Jake" <Jake.Wolf@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Clark, Tyler" <Tyler.Clark@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: MON AM Update: LeMahieu says he's not sure Legislature could take over federal elections

From: WisPolitics.com <news@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Monday, November 15, 2021 8:17 AM
To: Rep.Vos <Rep.Vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: MON AM Update: LeMahieu says he's not sure Legislature could take over federal elections



MON AM Update -- 15 Nov. 2021

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From WisPolitics.com ...

-- Senate Majority Leader Devin LeMahieu said he is not sure there is a "legal opportunity" to do as GOP U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson has suggested and have the Republican-controlled Legislature take over federal elections in Wisconsin.

LeMahieu, who was in a meeting Johnson held with Republican leaders at the state Capitol last week, appeared Sunday on "UpFront," produced in partnership with

WisPolitics.com.

Johnson has said lawmakers should take over federal elections and tell local officials to ignore the bipartisan Wisconsin Elections Commission.

"I am not sure how that would be accomplished," said LeMahieu, R-Oostburg.

"We have a state agency for a reason, to look at nomination signatures, to help candidates along the way, and to make sure clerks around the state know how to administer elections. I think the Legislature unilaterally taking over elections, I'm not sure how that would work," he said.

LeMahieu also said the state Senate subpoenaed the city of Madison for its election records because the city failed to work with the Legislative Audit Bureau in its recent look at the 2020 election in Wisconsin.

"Since we feel that the city of Madison is completely ignoring state law, we felt that it's important to give the audit bureau the opportunity to have access to those ballots and finish and complete their audit," he said.

Host Matt Smith asked LeMahieu if he favored reform of the WEC, which Republicans created to administer elections after they disbanded the former Government Accountability Board.

"We'll have to take a broader look at that. It's going to be tough, probably, to reform it with (Democratic) Gov. Evers in office, but the commission definitely needs to take the Audit Bureau results seriously, follow those recommendations and make sure they are abiding within state law," LeMahieu said.

Smith also asked LeMahieu if he thought five of the six commissioners should be criminally charged, as the Racine County sheriff has recommended.

"I'll leave that up to the prosecutors around the state of Wisconsin," he said.

-- In another segment, Milwaukee Police Chief Jeffrey Norman said he sees "a lot of energy behind solutions" to the reckless driving problem in the city.

Norman said the department's traffic safety unit is engaged in "active enforcement ... on a regular basis."

He also said red-light cameras could help with "certain parts of our community who don't believe in stopping at red lights or ensuring that they are slowing down."

He said dramatically increasing fines for reckless driving, as a suburban mayor has suggested, is a possible tool but would not be an all-encompassing solution to the

public safety problem.

Norman also addressed the spike in homicides happening in Milwaukee. He said too many people with poor conflict resolution skills are turning to available firearms to resolve disagreements.

"We need to work on that, in regards of what can we offer better in regards to you might have disagreements, but does it have to turn deadly?" Norman said.

See more from the program:
<http://www.wisn.com/upfront>

-- Lawmakers last week circulated 11 bills for co-sponsorship, including one that would require the DOT to install tire deflation devices when building exit ramps on state trunk highways to prevent vehicles from entering in the opposite direction for which travel has been designated.

See the Association of Wisconsin Lobbyists' summary of last week's bills circulated, including links to the co-sponsorship memos:
<https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/211114AWL.pdf>

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the Medical College of Wisconsin.

Register here: <https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/nov-16-wisbusiness-com-virtual-event-on-how-federally-funded-university-research-fuels-the-wisconsin-economy-2/>



[WIIN \(Wisconsin Infrastructure Investment Now\)](#)

TOP HEADLINES

Madison clerk responds to subpoena for 2020 election records

... [reviews Clerk Witzel-Behl vs LAB over requested ballot review, non-response from LAB to an August offer of copies, new Senate subpoenas requiring her to deliver records to Senate or arrange for LAB inspection] "I now find myself in the position of, in the worst case scenario, choosing to be subject to either potential federal criminal prosecution or a finding of contempt by the Legislature and the threat of imprisonment in the Dane County Jail," she wrote [to State Auditor Chrisman]. "As a state employee, I hope you can understand that this should not be the reality of public service for election officials in Wisconsin." ... proposed two options for LAB employees to inspect the city's election records: 1. Allow LAB staff, with clerk staff assistance, to "physically handle and inspect one record at a time." If auditors need to randomly select or sort records, "we can discuss how my staff can assist with accomplishing that under this method." 2. Allow Dane Co. LAB staffers to be sworn in as election officials. "This would provide me with the necessary confidence as custodian of the records that they will be handled and reviewed with the same care and chain of custody protocols as would be used by the City's election inspectors." Under this option, LAB staff could handle and inspect multiple records under clerk staff supervision. Witzel-Behl requested that the records review be scheduled either before or after the week of Nov. 22, since her staff spent Thanksgiving week last year assisting with the Dane County recount, "I trust that we share the same goal of providing the Legislature and the public with the most complete, accurate and transparent information and data regarding the administration of the 2020 General Election." LeMahieu spokesman "hopeful they can come to a quick resolution so we can complete our investigation."

<https://captimes.com/49b05865-d7b7-529a-9a6b-0ec2b10718a8.html>

Fight over WI's next congressional map, and what it means for the two parties

... 6-2 GOP advantage [in GOP map] stands in contrast to a rival plan drafted by the governor's redistricting commission, which in most cases would result in either a 4-4 split or a 5-3 Republican edge (which is the current breakdown). ... Is there any common ground between the two plans? Yes. Both plans envision two safe Democratic seats and four safe GOP seats. ... Where do the maps most differ? The key differences involve [CD1 and 3] ... regions that combine red and blue turf ... Republican plan leaves the 1st mostly unchanged and politically safe for the GOP. ... makes the 3rd about two or three points more Republican than it is now. ... commission's plan would make [CD3] about three to four points more Democratic than it is today ... shifting [CD1] from about a 10-point GOP lean to about a 5-point Democratic ... There is virtually no political scenario under either plan where Democrats could win more than four of eight seats. ... reflects the GOP's natural geographic advantage ... Under the GOP plan, a little more than 6% of Wisconsinites would find themselves in a different U.S. House district ... Under the commission plan, 28% would. ... There would be at least six uncompetitive seats under both plans: the 2nd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th. But the commission's map creates a little more competition than the GOP map.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/analysis/2021/11/12/wisconsin-redistricting-comparing-two-competing-congressional-maps/6355164001/>

After final word from attorneys, Rittenhouse jury takes over

Attorneys were set to make closing arguments Monday ... last word before a jury begins deliberating in a case that underscored Americans' bitter divisions on issues of guns, protests and policing. ... [review of shootings, trial] With prosecutors trying to focus jurors on the totality of what Rittenhouse did, starting with his decision to come to Kenosha with a gun, the defense tried to steer them toward the roughly 3 minutes that began with Rosenbaum's pursuit of Rittenhouse -- the period at the heart of his self-defense claim. After closing arguments, names were to be drawn to determine which 12 of the 18 jurors who heard testimony will deliberate. With a verdict near, Gov. Tony Evers said that 500 National Guard members would be prepared for duty in Kenosha if local law enforcement requested them.

<https://apnews.com/a5ee515a50f77ea4993bf7176859ef57>

Jury to get to weigh some lesser charges in Rittenhouse case

... Defense lawyers can object to lesser charges, and in some cases Friday, they did. For those that they didn't object to, Judge Bruce Schroeder asked Rittenhouse to confirm that he agreed with his attorneys' decision. Schroeder told Rittenhouse that by including the lesser charges, "you're raising the risk of conviction, although you're avoiding the possibility that the jury will end up compromising on the more serious crime. And you're also decreasing the risk that you'll end up with a second trial because the jury is unable to agree." ... Friday's arguments over jury instructions were contentious at times, with attorneys rehashing debates they had earlier in the case. ... Schroeder ultimately said he would allow the provocation instruction, which would ask the jury to consider whether Rittenhouse provoked Rosenbaum into attacking him. If the jury finds he did, that would negate self-defense. ... Prosecutors asked to add second-degree attempted intentional homicide, first-degree reckless endangerment and

second-degree reckless endangerment options. Rittenhouse attorney Corey Chirafisi didn't object to the second-degree attempted homicide count, but he objected to adding the reckless endangerment counts, saying he doesn't believe someone can "attempt to be reckless." Review charges, shooting backdrop. Atty. Kim, MU Law prof. O'Hear comment.

<https://apnews.com/c2fc277268d0597911064355f2554e59>

As nation watches Rittenhouse trial, Judge Schroeder's peculiar behavior stands out

... Bruce Schroeder, the longest-serving circuit court judge in Wisconsin, has emerged as a lightning rod ... But Schroeder has his defenders, too ... "We forget that judges are real people," said Milwaukee defense attorney Dan Adams, "He has idiosyncrasies, everyone has them. Part of the job of the trial lawyer is to learn about those and navigate the different opinions and stances of the jobs," he said. "I think (defense attorney) Mark Richards is doing a much better job doing that than (Assistant District Attorney Thomas) Binger is." ... Milwaukee attorneys who have practiced in front of Schroeder -- Julius Kim and John Birdsall -- said they understand why ... But both said onlookers shouldn't let that distract them. ... "He is who he is and I don't think that has any bearing on the case particularly," Birdsall said. ... [ex-Supreme] Geske called the [ruling against the term "victim"] "odd," but said it is "certainly within the bounds of his authority." ... [attys. comment on trial moments, including calling for applause for witness who was a veteran] "This move with the veterans and a witness is really concerning," Geske said. "I don't know what he's doing. My guess is he's extremely tired. Those are tough, emotionally exhausting cases to try. But none of that excuses having the jury applaud for a defense witness. I just can't even imagine."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/15/rittenhouse-trial-judge-schroeder-draws-attention-peculiar-behavior/8588799002/>

Afghans grapple with loss, hope as they prepare to leave Fort McCoy

... Tahiry ... with a group of 147 other students from the Asian University for Women. The young women could not bring their families. "I have lost my everything in Afghanistan. I left my home, my family, my everything. I'm thinking of starting a new life here," Tahiry said. "I'm hoping I can find everything here again." ... one of more than 11,000 Afghans at Fort McCoy ... still waiting to be resettled ... As of Nov. 8, "a couple thousand" Afghans had left Fort McCoy and more are departing each day, said [State Dept.'s] Kirking Loomis ... prioritized ... are "medically fragile" ... "a key challenge" is the "availability and the affordability of housing." ... students from the ... AUW ... based in Bangladesh ... all ended up at Fort McCoy ... had been attending school online in Afghanistan because of the pandemic. ... headed to 10 partner universities across the U.S. -- including UW-Milwaukee, Brown, Cornell and Arizona State University -- which have given them full-ride scholarships. ... [10 students will attend UWM] at least 50 Afghans will resettle to Madison, and possibly as many as 75. Other destinations include Green Bay, Wausau and the Fox Valley. ... Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett and Madison Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway both said in separate statements that all Afghans should expect a warm welcome in Wisconsin. [more on escape from Kabul, US entry screening and vaccines, Ft. McCoy life] ... Some base personnel have told them a

few months, others three to four weeks. Wahidyar said the waiting was difficult but added that Fort McCoy is "not that bad because we have everything we need." [sadness about perilous life for friends, family who could not escape Afghanistan] ... "It's about my future," Azami said. "I have to be the person that I wanted to be."
<https://madison.com/wsj/18179611-1d61-5722-81e0-eda60a968c96.html>

Boom cycle: Economic recovery, home deliveries fuel demand for recycled materials

... [pre-pandemic] Wisconsin recyclers couldn't give away scrap paper. ... average price paid for used corrugated cardboard in the Midwest hit \$185 a ton in October, the highest in two decades ... plastic milk jugs hit a record high of more than \$2,000 a ton in August, and for the past year and a half has been worth more than aluminum ... five times what they did in 2019. ... All those plastic takeout containers and Amazon boxes have to come from somewhere, after all, and that has made recycled material more competitive. ... Many [munies] have seen revenues outperform their projections, in some cases enough to cover other program costs. ... Vernon County ... city of Madison ... in the black ... "You definitely have to have a long-range view to be in the recycling game," said [WM's] Morgan. "You have to be able to stomach the downturns." ... Wisconsin law bans #1 and #2 plastics -- used to make soda bottles and milk jugs -- from landfills, along with aluminum and tin cans, glass bottles, cardboard and most paper. ... But single-stream recycling programs like Madison's also collect other plastics -- including dairy containers, PVC and buckets -- that may not be so easy to sell, especially if they can't be easily sorted. ... "Plastics are a very complex chemical material," [UW prof.] Huber said. "There's not one easy way to recycle all plastics." As a result, only about 13% of consumer plastic actually gets recycled ... "The demand is not going away," [DNR's] Semrau said. "I would be shocked if we go back to where paper is zero dollars."
<https://madison.com/wsj/262d7e33-a94e-5eb2-93d2-1b0f557e86d4.html>

In the wealth race, Mandela Barnes trails far behind Dem primary rivals

... recorded \$148,080.40 in income as the state's lieutenant governor, according to a federal financial disclosure he filed earlier this month. ... assets of between \$5,000 and \$75,000 in four mutual funds and a savings account. ... no dollar figure on a listing for his state retirement plan. ... no liabilities of \$10,000 or greater. ... owns two condominiums, but they are not listed on the form. ... The form does not require a candidate to disclose his primary residence, nor a mortgage used for personal use. ... Godlewski and her husband ... [had assets] between \$23.9-60M ... Lasry ... listed assets ranging from \$100-273.1M ... U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson... worth between \$16.5-78.1M ... "It's been widely reported ... " [he tweeted a WisPolitics.com "Capitol Report: Mandela Barnes trails top rivals in personal wealth"] ... [also tweeted] "As of 2018 a typical member of Congress was 12x richer than the typical American household. More than half are millionaires." ... [and] "The last thing we need is another millionaire (or billionaire) in Congress. That's why I'm fighting to change the game, to level the playing field. We're fighting for opportunity."
<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/15/mandela-barnes-discloses-modest-savings-u-s-senate-financial-form/8592062002/>

Thursday: WisPolitics Luncheon: Panel Discussion on Wisconsin Redistricting

Join us for an in-person luncheon at The Madison Club on Thursday, Nov. 18 for a discussion about the once-a-decade redrawing of congressional and legislative boundaries in Wisconsin.

The event features a panel discussion with three former legislators who have deep experience in legislative map-making -- Republicans Scott Jensen and Joe Handrick plus Democrat Chuck Chvala -- along with Elizabeth Treviño, Wisconsin state director of allontheline.org.

See additional details and register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wispolitics-luncheon-panel-discussion-on-wi-redistricting-tickets-186304851827>

This luncheon is sponsored by Husch Blackwell, American Family Insurance, Xcel Energy, Walmart, AARP Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Hospital Association.

WisPolitics.com subscribers and members, as well as Madison Club members and their guests, receive discounted pricing for WisPolitics luncheons.

WEEK AHEAD

<https://www.wispolitics.com/category/events/>

Monday, November 15

- 10 a.m.: Startup Week Wisconsin.

- 10 a.m.: Assembly Subcommittee on Education and Economic Development committee meeting.

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1645937>

- 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.: Assembly Democratic Campaign Committee Eau Claire fundraiser.
<https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/assembly-democratic-campaign-committee-brewin-and-fish-fryin-in-eau-claire/>

- 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.: Thompson Center on Public Leadership & UW-Madison International Division event with former USAID Executive Secretary and Peace Corps Director Aaron Williams.

<https://thompsoncenter.wisc.edu/event/aaron-williams-a-life-unimagined/>

Tuesday, November 16

- 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.: UW-Madison Community Economic Development: Wisconsin Broadband Summit.
<https://wisconsintechnologycouncil.com/event/wisconsin-broadband-summit/>
- 10 a.m.: Startup Week Wisconsin.
<https://startupweekwisconsin2021.sched.com>
- 10 a.m.: Assembly Committee on Jobs and the Economy public hearing on AB 678, relating to trade relations with Taiwan.
<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1645587>
- 10 a.m.: Assembly Committee on Aging and Long-Term Care public hearing on AB 175, relating to grants to independent living centers.
<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1645265>
- 10 a.m.: PSC hearing.
<https://apps.psc.wi.gov/APPS/eventscalendar/Content/hearing.aspx?id=101470>
- 10:05 a.m.: Assembly Committee on Jobs and the Economy informational hearing.
<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1645588>
- 12 p.m.: WisBusiness.com virtual event on how federally funded university research fuels the Wisconsin economy. Panelists include: Jeanne Hossenlopp, Marquette University's vice president for research and innovation; Sandra McLellan, professor in the School of Freshwater Sciences at UW-Milwaukee; Katarina Marie Braun, a UW-Madison medical student who has a PhD in cellular and molecular biology; and Dr. Shekar N. Kurpad, of the Medical College of Wisconsin.
<https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/nov-16-wisbusiness-com-virtual-event-on-how-federally-funded-university-research-fuels-the-wisconsin-economy-2/>
- 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.: Greater Madison Metropolitan Planning Organization: Connect 2050 Regional Transportation Plan update.
https://cityofmadison.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_-25J_KuCSPSN83_DBhYXtQ
- 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.: LeaderEthics Wisconsin candidate development forum.
<https://leaderethicswi.org/event-4544972>
- 12 p.m.: Citizens State Bank, St. Croix EDC host conversation with WEDC economist Scott Hodek.
<https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/citizens-state-bank-st-croix-edc-conversation-with-scott-hodek/>
- 12:15 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.: Milwaukee Rotary Club. Guest speakers are Milwaukee PBS producer Maryann Lazarski and Milwaukee Journal Sentinel business reporter Rick

Barrett, who will discuss their documentary, "America's Dairyland at the Crossroads." Rotary meetings are open to members, invited guests and media.
<https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/milwaukee-rotary-club-148/>

- 1 p.m.: PSC hearing.

<https://apps.psc.wi.gov/APPS/eventscalendar/Content/hearing.aspx?id=101470>

- 6 p.m.: PSC hearing.

<https://apps.psc.wi.gov/APPS/eventscalendar/Content/hearing.aspx?id=101470>

Wednesday, November 17

- 5 a.m.: Marquette Law School U.S. Supreme Court Poll release.

<https://law.marquette.edu/community/marquette-law-school-us-supreme-court-poll>

- 9 a.m.: Startup Week Wisconsin.

<https://startupweekwisconsin2021.sched.com/>

- 9:30 a.m.: Assembly Committee on Transportation executive session.

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1645702>

- 9:35 a.m.: Assembly Committee on Transportation public hearing on AB 636, relating to publishing and reporting requirements for the transportation infrastructure loan program, and other bills.

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1645703>

- 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.: UW-Stout Leadership Institute and Center for Applied Ethics: "The Supply Chain, the Pandemic, and Ethics: How were industries affected and how did they respond?"

<https://www.uwstout.edu/outreach-engagement/lifelong-learning/leadership-development/leadership-institute/2021-pandemic-and-ethics-leadership-speaker-series/supply-chain-pandemic-and-ethics-how-were-industries-affected-and>

- 10 a.m.: PSC hearing.

<https://apps.psc.wi.gov/APPS/eventscalendar/Content/hearing.aspx?id=101470>

- 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.: Wisconsin's Green Fire Webinar: Meeting Wisconsin's Deer Conservation Challenges.

<https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/21119-WGFW.pdf>

- 11 a.m.: PSC hearing.

<https://apps.psc.wi.gov/APPS/eventscalendar/Content/hearing.aspx?id=101470>

- 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.: Wisconsin Policy Forum: 29th Annual Salute to Local Government.

<https://wispolityforum.org/events/2021-salute-to-local-government/>

- 12 p.m.: Wisconsin Infrastructure Investment Now: "Understanding the Economic Impact of Solar Energy in Wisconsin."

<https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/wisconsin-infrastructure-investment-now-understanding-the-economic-impact-of-solar-energy-in-wisconsin/>

- 12:10 p.m. - 1:05 p.m.: Madison Rotary Club. Guest speaker is Common Wealth Development Inc. Executive Director Justice Castaneda, who is to present, "The Housing Mixtape: A Case Study of Redlining, Including its Legacy and Contemporary Application in Madison." Rotary meetings are open to members, invited guests and media.

<https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/madison-rotary-club-133/>

- 1 p.m.: Dept. of Public Instruction public hearing on open enrollment administrative rules.

<https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/dept-of-public-instruction-plans-to-hold-public-hearing-on-proposed-rules-related-to-updates-in-open-enrollment-procedures-2/>

- 1 p.m.: Wisconsin Foundation and Alumni Association: "Wisconsin Idea Spotlight - Understanding North Korea."

<https://www.uwevents.com/ereg/newreg.php?eventid=645845&>

Thursday, November 18

- 5 a.m.: Marquette Law School releases national poll on political topics.

<https://law.marquette.edu/community/marquette-law-school-national-poll-political-topics>

- 7:45 a.m. - 3 p.m.: Sustain Dane Summit.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sustain-dane-summit-weaving-stories-of-change-registration-161151924745>

- 9 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.: SCORE workshop: "Connecting Women Entrepreneurs: Navigating a New Normal"

<https://wisconsintechcouncil.com/event/score-connecting-women-entrepreneurs-navigating-a-new-normal/>

- 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.: Wisconsin Veterans Chamber of Commerce webinar: "E-Commerce Essentials - Sell Your Products & Services Online."

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/e-commerce-essentials-sell-your-products-services-online-virtual-tickets-173058220797?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

- 9:30 a.m.: Startup Week Wisconsin.

<https://startupweekwisconsin2021.sched.com/>

- 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.: WisPolitics luncheon panel on Wisconsin redistricting. Panelists include: Panelists: Former GOP Assembly Speaker Scott Jensen, former Dem Senate

Minority Leader Chuck Chvala, former GOP state Rep. Joe Handrick and Allontheline.org Wisconsin State Director Elizabeth Treviño.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wispolitics-luncheon-panel-discussion-on-wi-redistricting-tickets-186304851827>

- 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.: Women's Fund presents "Disruptors, Changing the Power Dynamics."

<https://womensfundmke.org/event/womens-fund-presents2021-event-page/>

- 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.: UW-Madison public debate: "Boycott, Divest and Sanction Chinese State-Owned Enterprises?"

<https://thompsoncenter.wisc.edu/event/public-debate-boycott-divest-and-sanction-chinese-state-owned-enterprises/>

Friday, November 19

- 7 a.m. - 9 a.m.: IBAW: Small business cyber security program.

<https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/21119-IBAW.pdf>

- 8 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.: MMAC World Trade Alliance Global Compliance Roundtable.

<https://web.mmac.org/events/WTAGlobal%20Compliance%20Roundtable-3976/details>

- 9:30 a.m.: Startup Week Wisconsin.

<https://startupweekwisconsin2021.sched.com/>

- 10 a.m.: PSC hearing.

<https://apps.psc.wi.gov/APPS/eventscalendar/Content/hearing.aspx?id=101470>

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[Election Blog](#) | [Quorum Call](#) | [DC Wrap](#)

From: "Rep.Vos" <Rep.Vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 11, 2021, 5:03 PM
To: "Vos, Robin" <Robin.Vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "michlit99@gmail.com" <michlit99@gmail.com>; "Toftness, Jenny" <Jenny.Toftness@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Fawcett, Steve" <Steve.Fawcett@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Joyce, Angela" <Angela.Joyce@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "King, Adam" <Adam.King@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Smith, Kelly" <Kelly.Smith@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Krogstad, Moriah" <Moriah.Krogstad@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Fabick, Abbey" <Abbey.Fabick@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Wolf, Jake" <Jake.Wolf@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Clark, Tyler" <Tyler.Clark@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: THU PM Update: GOP redistricting maps headed to Evers following Assembly passage, veto expected

From: WisPolitics.com <news@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 11, 2021 4:59 PM
To: Rep.Vos <Rep.Vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: THU PM Update: GOP redistricting maps headed to Evers following Assembly passage, veto expected



THU PM Update -- 11 Nov. 2021

Exclusively for WisPolitics Subscribers - DO NOT FORWARD

From WisPolitics.com ...

-- The Assembly approved new GOP-backed legislative and congressional maps today after some Dems berated both the Republicans lines and a proposal from a commission Gov. Tony Evers created.

Ahead of two 60-38 votes on the Senate-passed bills, Speaker Robin Vos said the Senate-approved maps drawn by GOP legislative aides adhere to Voting Rights Act requirements better than People's Maps Commission maps. The Rochester Republican said the GOP maps are compact and contiguous, avoid splitting wards or municipalities, retain core populations and maintain communities of interest.

The maps now head to Evers' desk for consideration, who has vowed to veto them. That would all but assure the courts will draw Wisconsin's political boundaries for the 2022 elections. There are currently lawsuits pending before the state Supreme Court and a federal court asking them to draw the lines if the gov and Legislature fail to reach

a deal.

During floor debate, Vos said Dems could win a majority under the current and the GOP-offered maps if they fielded better candidates.

"Statewide election results point to the fact that both Democrats and Republicans can achieve a majority in the state Assembly if they have candidates who appeal to the people in each district," he said.

Minority Leader Gordon Hintz, D-Oshkosh, knocked Vos for forcing an amendment vote on the PMC's legislative maps, calling it a political game.

The Assembly rejected the PMC's legislative maps 77-21. All Republicans present voted against the maps, while 21 Dems voted in favor and 17 voted against them.

Hintz also said he doesn't buy Republicans' argument that their maps are best because they present the least-possible amount of changes to current maps, as they continue to be skewed against electing Dem candidates.

He added gerrymandering and the focus on reelection instead of lawmaking detracts from the essential role representative government plays.

"Having fewer competitive districts really leaves our Democracy in shambles," he said.

"Do you understand that it is not normal for a 50/50 state to have 64 seats drawn to be more Republican?"

But Hintz added the maps being debated today likely won't be the new maps.

"Your maps are not going anywhere, the People's map's not going anywhere," he said. "We'll see what happens in the courts."

-- Rep. Sylvia Ortiz-Velez, D-Milwaukee, slammed Evers' maps for working to increase Dem seats at the expense of limiting representation of Black, brown and other minority voters.

She said any new maps must protect minority-majority districts, adding the PMC maps are part of a national effort to limit minority-majority representation.

"It promotes a white supremacist agenda that says it's OK for other folks who we don't choose to rule over us and make decisions for us," she said. "I will not remain silent, Mr. Speaker, while others unlawfully try to prevent us from electing candidates of our choice. These maps are illegal and a perversion of justice that cannot stand."

Ortiz-Velez added she and other minority lawmakers were blocked by the executive

branch from intervening in the PMC process.

Rep. LaKeshia Myers, D-Milwaukee, said Ortiz-Velez is right about the PMC maps, but the Republican maps also smack of gerrymandering.

Myers also said minority voters have historically suffered under both parties, but she will not vote for any map that limits representation for African-Americans.

"But when it comes to looking at maps, I'm not willing to vote for any map that dilutes and or erases African American or Latino representation," she said. "I don't care who wrote it, who drew it, who took the crayon, who circled it, who did whatever, because it makes no sense."

She said she called a quorum before going into her speech because some of her Dem colleagues decided to leave the floor and she wanted to make sure they were present.

-- The Assembly approved legislation that would create a new process to collect and process sexual assault kits and establish a tracking system to ensure a backlog doesn't happen again.

Both bills are now headed to Evers' desk.

The Assembly failed to pass nearly identical versions of the bills last session, but they included provisions backers of the original legislation didn't support.

Both bills were sparked by the state's past struggles with a backlog of test kits, which became an issue in the 2018 AG race as Dem Josh Kaul defeated GOP incumbent Brad Schimel. But the issue has stretched back years.

Senate Bill 71, which would create the process for collecting and processing the kits, was approved via voice vote. SB 94, which cleared the Assembly unanimously, would require the Department of Justice to create a database to give sexual assault victims access to information about the status of their kits, as well as various law enforcement and health care professionals to track and update their location. The original version included \$400,000 in state funding to cover the cost of the database. But DOJ has since secured federal funding to pay for it. The amended bill cleared the Senate 32-0.

Last year, the Assembly approved along party lines a version of the package that included a requirement that law enforcement would notify U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement if a non-citizen who wasn't authorized to be in the country was arrested for sexual assault. Dems decried the additions as poison pills.

-- The Assembly also approved a bill to help two aging paper mills after Gov. Tony Evers vetoed a similar bill earlier this year.

The Assembly in a 96-2 vote passed AB 682, which would authorize up to a \$1 million grant to maintain and operate the Verso mill in Wisconsin Rapids and authorize a \$15 million loan for someone to buy or improve Park Falls Pulp and Paper Mill in the city of Park Falls.

The bill now heads to the Senate.

Evers in July vetoed a bill that would have authorized the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation to use federal COVID-19 aid to issue a \$50 million loan to a co-op that was looking to buy the Verso mill and another \$15 million for a party to buy the Park Falls mill.

Rep. Scott Krug, R-Nekoosa, said securing the funding in the bill is critical to securing a bigger deal to sell both mills to new buyers and make sure minimal damage is done to mill equipment during an expected cold and wet winter.

"Time is of the essence," Krug said.

-- GOP Assembly Speaker Robin Vos said he's never studied whether the Legislature could take over elections administration in Wisconsin as U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson is urging lawmakers to do.

After meeting with state lawmakers yesterday, the Oshkosh Republican told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel the Legislature should reassert its authority over the election system.

Johnson has said he will announce soon whether he will seek a third term next year.

"There's no mention of the governor in the Constitution," Johnson told the paper after the closed-door meeting with GOP lawmakers. "It says state legislatures, and so if I were running the joint -- and I'm not -- I would come out and I would just say, 'We're reclaiming our authority. Don't listen to (the Elections Commission) anymore. Their guidances are null and void.'"

Vos, R-Rochester, told reporters today the meeting with Johnson largely focused on other issues and that he encouraged the senator to review the Legislative Audit Bureau's report on the 2020 election.

"The idea of saying that, yes, the Elections Commission has to follow the law by working with the Legislature, that's in the statute's that's how it has to happen. So if that's Sen. Johnson's intent, he's right. The Legislature has to be involved," Vos said. "But the idea of somehow we're going to take over the elections and do all those things, I've never studied that. I don't know about it. But that wasn't part of our discussion."

Vos noted a 1964 state Supreme Court ruling rejected the suggestion that the Legislature could complete redistricting through a resolution without involving the gov.

-- Former Supreme Court Justice Michael Gableman addressed the issue in a just-released report, arguing it's an "open question in state law" if the Legislature can "tighten up or loosen election security for federal elections" without input from the governor.

Gableman's interim report, released yesterday, covers the main issues that he's been looking into under a \$676,000 taxpayer-funded contract he signed with Vos. That includes the authority of the Wisconsin Elections Commission.

Gableman wrote the U.S. Constitution gives state legislatures the primary responsibility for establishing rules regarding things like voter registration. He argued that power was ratified in the Wisconsin Constitution, which declares "legislative power shall be vested in a senate and assembly."

He argues the combined impact means it's an open question whether the two chambers can take action through joint resolution, which doesn't require gubernatorial input and "whether there are limits on how much of this constitutional responsibility can and should be delegated to other state actors" such as the Elections Commission.

Still, Gableman notes in the report that the Wisconsin Constitution also clearly states the gov's role in signing bills into law.

"It may be the case that the Senate and Assembly can change election regulations in the absence of a statute on the books, indeed Wisconsin law appears silent on this question, but it would be another matter for the Senate and Assembly to seek to repeal an extant portion of the election code."

See page 8 of the report:

<https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/211110Interim.pdf>

-- Gableman also claims state statute on how electors are chosen didn't empower the Elections Commission or gov to certify the results of an election, even though Wisconsin law clearly lays out their roles in that process.

Kevin Kennedy, the former director of the Government Accountability Board, noted there were legal arguments raised during various efforts to overturn the results of the 2020 election that cited powers the U.S. Constitution grants to state legislatures.

But both he and Rick Esenberg, president and general counsel of the conservative Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty, told WisPolitics.com today the Legislature gave the Elections Commission and gov clear roles in certifying election results.

"The Legislature doesn't certify the results. The Legislature prescribes how you conduct elections," Kennedy said.

Gableman's office directed WisPolitics.com today to submit questions about the interim report via email. It had yet to respond as of late this afternoon.

Gableman's report references the controversy that erupted last fall after Elections Commission Chair Ann Jacobs signed off on the county canvasses once recounts in Dane and Milwaukee counties were completed. Gov. Tony Evers the next day signed a certificate of ascertainment certifying Joe Biden as the winner of Wisconsin's presidential election.

GOP Commissioner Dean Knudson argued the full commission should've had a role in approving the county canvasses.

The process triggered a window for then-President Trump to challenge the results.

In his report, Gableman wrote there were "serious and legitimate questions that the certification of Wisconsin's election results may have been undertaken in an unlawful and unconstitutional manner." He added the "acceptance of electors by the governor while recount challenges were pending deprived the Legislature of the right to certify the vote" under the U.S. Constitution.

Esenberg, though, pointed to several areas of state law that give the commission and gov those powers.

For example, state statute 7.70 lays out a process for the commission chair or their designee to oversee the results of the county canvass and prepare a statement certifying the results.

The statute includes this section:

"For presidential electors, the commission shall prepare a certificate showing the determination of the results of the canvass and the names of the persons elected, and the governor shall sign, affix the great seal of the state, and transmit the certificate by registered mail to the U.S. administrator of general services. The governor shall also prepare 6 duplicate originals of such certificate and deliver them to one of the presidential electors on or before the first Monday after the 2nd Wednesday in December."

See section 7.70 of state statutes:

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/7/ii/70>

-- Gableman's report also misrepresents a state Supreme Court ruling in a lawsuit

the Green Party filed trying to get its presidential candidate on the ballot.

The report asserts the majority in the 4-3 decision rejected the suit because the Elections Commission claimed it had already issued an unknown number of ballots and there wasn't sufficient time to properly address the claims.

Instead, the majority ruling focused on the Green Party's delay in filing the lawsuit. What's more, the Elections Commission doesn't issue ballots. County clerks print them before delivering the ballots to their municipal counterparts.

Gableman focused on the case as he accused the Elections Commission of taking actions during the 2020 election to prevent Wisconsin courts from weighing in.

He wrote "the decision by WEC to quickly issue ballots without a Green Party candidate was a determining factor in the Wisconsin Supreme Court declining to address the merits of that exclusion."

In that case, the Elections Commission deadlocked 3-3 Aug. 20 on whether the Green Party had submitted enough valid signatures to qualify presidential candidate Howie Hawkins for the ballot.

In the following weeks:

*On Aug. 26, the commission certified the list of independent candidates for president and vice president before approving on Sept. 1 the remainder of the candidates who would appear on the ballot.

*On Sept. 3, the Green Party filed a lawsuit with the state Supreme Court seeking to be placed on the ballot.

*On Sept. 10, the state Supreme Court ordered the commission to direct clerks to cease sending absentee ballots and to collect information on how many may have already been sent out.

*On Sept. 14, the court ruled 4-3 it was too late in the process to add Hawkins and focused on the nearly two weeks the party waited before filing its lawsuit.

In his majority opinion, Justice Brian Hagedorn wrote the court concluded "that the petitioners delayed in seeking relief in a situation with very short deadlines and that under the circumstances, including the fact that the 2020 fall general election has essentially begun, it is too late to grant petitioners any form of relief that would be feasible and that would not cause confusion and undue damage to both the Wisconsin electors who want to vote and the other candidates in all of the various races on the general election ballot."

The ruling noted an unknown number of ballots had already been printed, adding it

would be expensive and time-consuming for clerks to reprint ballots and still meet the deadlines to deliver them to voters.

County clerks faced a deadline last year of Sept. 16 to deliver them to municipal clerks, who then were required to mail them by Sept. 17 to those with a valid request already on file for the general election.

A footnote in the majority opinion pointed out the narrow window under state law between the commission ruling on ballot access and the deadline that ballots must be sent to voters. The majority encouraged the Legislature to lengthen that window.

In her dissent, Justice Pat Roggensack accused the commission of improperly denying Hawkins a spot on the ballot. That includes her assertion that the commission staff failed to properly follow state law in finding that some of the party's petitions were improper because they listed the wrong address for the vice presidential candidate, who moved during the window to collect signatures.

See the court's Sept. 10 order:

<https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/2009010Order.pdf>

See the court's Sept. 14 ruling:

<https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/200914Green.pdf>

Next Thursday: WisPolitics Luncheon: Panel Discussion on Wisconsin Redistricting

Join us for an in-person luncheon at The Madison Club on Thursday, Nov. 18 for a discussion about the once-a-decade redrawing of congressional and legislative boundaries in Wisconsin.

The event features a panel discussion with three former legislators who have deep experience in legislative map-making -- Republicans Scott Jensen and Joe Handrick plus Democrat Chuck Chvala -- along with Elizabeth Treviño, Wisconsin state director of allontheline.org.

See additional details and register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wispolitics-luncheon-panel-discussion-on-wi-redistricting-tickets-186304851827>

This luncheon is sponsored by Husch Blackwell, American Family Insurance, Xcel Energy, Walmart, AARP Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Hospital Association.

WisPolitics.com subscribers and members, as well as Madison Club members and their guests, receive discounted pricing for WisPolitics luncheons.

BILLS CIRCULATING

LRB-0186, LRB-0187, LRB-0188: recommendations by the Ethics Commission.

LRB-5028/1: planning and design of a new engineering building at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

LRB-5056: the Internet Privacy Act, privacy and security of customer information obtained by an Internet access service provider.

LRB-5175/1: removal of deceased voters from the official voter registration list.

BILLS INTRODUCED

<http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/proposaltext/2021/REG/top>

SJR 75: proclaiming November 2021 as Runaway Prevention Month in Wisconsin.

SJR 76: reserving to the people the power of referendum to reject acts of the legislature and the power of initiative to propose and approve at an election laws and constitutional amendments.

SJR 77: recognizing November as Native American Heritage Month.

SB 679: law enforcement officer suicide prevention and reporting and making an appropriation.

SB 680: changing the conditions of liability for worker's compensation benefits for emergency medical services practitioners.

SB 681: changing the conditions of liability for worker's compensation benefits for emergency medical services practitioners, emergency medical responders, volunteer firefighters, correctional officers, emergency dispatchers, coroners and coroner staff, and medical examiners and medical examiner staff.

SB 682: creating an exception to the 40-year recording requirement for recorded access easements.

SB 683: hunter education requirements for persons under the age of 18 and granting rule-making authority.

SB 684: definition of youth center for purposes of placing a sexually violent person on

supervised release and notification requirements for such placements.

SB 685: the University of Wisconsin System freshwater collaborative.

SB 686: post adoption contact agreements.

SB 687: hospital services provided in a home setting.

SB 688: practice of certain skilled health services by military medical personnel and granting rule-making authority.

SB 689: rare disease advisory council.

SB 690: an income and franchise tax exemption for restaurant revitalization grants.

SB 691: student loans for postsecondary education, requirements related to student loan servicers, creating an office of the student loan ombudsman in the Department of Financial Institutions, and granting rule-making authority.

SB 692: loans and repayment assistance by a political subdivision for certain improvements to properties and collection of the debt by special charge.

SB 693: coverage of infertility services under health policies and plans and granting rule-making authority.

SB 694: a property tax exemption for a community health center.

SB 695: the number of independent charter schools authorized by the College of Menominee Nation or the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College.

SB 696: congressional redistricting.

SB 697: legislative redistricting.

SB 698: extending the expenditure period for a tax incremental district in the city of Westby.

SB 699: authorizing the Wisconsin Propane Education and Research Council to levy an assessment.

SB 700: modifying administrative rules related to home health agencies.

SB 701: rehired annuitant teachers in the Wisconsin Retirement System.

SB 702: exemption from public utility regulation regarding renewable electricity.

Track bills for free:

<https://notify.legis.wisconsin.gov/>

TOP HEADLINES

Robin Vos downplays Sen. Ron Johnson's urging that GOP leaders take over elections in Wisconsin

https://madison.com/wsj/news/local/govt-and-politics/robin-vos-downplays-sen-ron-johnsons-urging-that-gop-leaders-take-over-elections-in-wisconsin/article_52378e59-5d48-56e6-9271-6969bae11a99.htm

A look at key points in Kyle Rittenhouse's testimony

<https://apnews.com/article/kyle-rittenhouse-trial-key-points-bc51f3b9dd0fe0c1289fe2161d7c3ab3>

Rittenhouse trial Day 9: Defense finishes calling witnesses; prosecutors to call one more rebuttal witness

https://www.kenoshanews.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/watch-now-rittenhouse-trial-day-9-defense-finishes-calling-witnesses-prosecutors-to-call-one-more/article_0cc647ad-7a6a-558b-8789-5e4184684859.html

Rittenhouse trial live: Judge tentatively agrees to three-day weekend

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/11/kyle-rittenhouse-trial-live-updates-day-nine-week-two-begins/6378141001/>

Madison City Council continues budget deliberations, keeps BRT on track

https://captimes.com/news/community/madison-city-council-continues-budget-deliberations-keeps-brt-on-track/article_b08637b0-fc14-5f43-807b-51c975f9b860.html

Biden marks Veterans Day at Arlington National Cemetery

<https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/581144-biden-marks-veterans-day-at-arlington-national-cemetery>

Appeals court temporarily blocks archives from handing Trump records to Jan. 6 committee

<https://thehill.com/regulation/court-battles/581198-appeals-court-temporarily-blocks-archives-from-handing-trump-records>

Appeals court slows Jan. 6 committee's effort to access Trump White House records

<https://www.politico.com/news/2021/11/11/appeals-court-jan-6-committee-trump-white-house-records-520952>

White House won't assert privilege over Meadows documents

<https://thehill.com/policy/national-security/581165-white-house-wont-assert-privilege-over-meadows-documents-sought-by>

Manchin objects to tax credit for union-made EVs in spending package

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/581166-manchin-objects-to-tax-credit-for-union-made-evs-in-spending>

10 states sue Biden administration over COVID-19 vaccine requirement for health care workers

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/covid-19-vaccine-mandate-states-sue-biden-administration-health-care-workers/>

FDA, Ellume recalling more than 2 million at-home COVID-19 test kits

<https://thehill.com/policy/healthcare/581156-fda-ellume-recalling-more-than-2-million-at-home-covid-test-kits>

U.S. and China release new joint climate pledge

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/climate-change-pledge-china-united-states/>

Biden administration wrestles with selling armed drones to Indonesia

<https://www.politico.com/news/2021/11/11/biden-administration-armed-drones-indonesia-520888>

Tuesday: WisBusiness.com virtual event on how federally funded university research fuels the Wisconsin economy

Join WisBusiness.com for a free virtual luncheon on Tuesday, Nov. 16, from noon to 1 p.m.m on how federally funded university research fuels the Wisconsin economy.

The event will begin with opening remarks from Tom Still, president of the Wisconsin Technology Council, followed by a panel discussion with university scientists.

Panelists:

- Jeanne Hossenlopp, Marquette University's vice president for research and innovation.*
- Sandra McLellan, professor in the School of Freshwater Sciences at UW-Milwaukee.*
- Katarina Marie Braun, a UW-Madison medical student who has a PhD in cellular and molecular biology.*
- Dr. Shekar N. Kurpad, of the Medical College of Wisconsin.*

Partners for this event include: Marquette University, UW-Madison, UW-Milwaukee and the Medical College of Wisconsin.

Register here: <https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/nov-16-wisbusiness-com-virtual-event-on-how-federally-funded-university-research-fuels-the-wisconsin-economy-2/>

FRIDAY'S CALENDAR

<https://www.wispolitics.com/category/events/>

- 7:30 a.m. - 9 a.m.: Women in Technology presents, "Transforming Teams into the Future of Work."

<https://www.witwisconsin.com/event-4514929>

- 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.: Rep. Kitchens fundraiser.

[https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/rep-kitchens-fundraiser-dinner-with-former-lt-gov-
kleefisch/](https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/rep-kitchens-fundraiser-dinner-with-former-lt-gov-kleefisch/)

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