

Subject: RE: Public Records Request (WI-REP-24-0064)
Date: Monday, January 29, 2024 at 5:08:03 PM Eastern Standard Time
From: Redell, Carol
To: AO Records
CC: Rep.Binsfeld, Blazel, Ted
Attachments: ASM 27- 1.25.24- American Oversight.zip

EXTERNAL SENDER

Eva Mayanja
American Oversight
downloads@americanoversight.org

Dear Eva:

Open records requests are processed through the Assembly Chief Clerk's office for billing purposes only. You submitted an open records request to Representative Binsfeld. 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
608.266.1501
carol.redell@legis.wi.gov

From: AO Records <records@americanoversight.org>
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 3:54 PM
To: Rep.Binsfeld <Rep.Binsfeld@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Blazel, Ted <Ted.Blazel@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Public Records Request (WI-REP-24-0064)

Dear Public Records Officer,

Please find attached a request for records under Wisconsin's public records laws.

Sincerely,

Eva Mayanja | (she/hers)
Paralegal | American Oversight
records@americanoversight.org
www.americanoversight.org | @weareoversight

Public Records Request: WI-REP-24-0064

Dannhauser, Samantha

From: Paul Stuber <leipsic56@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 24, 2024 1:50 PM
To: Rep.Binsfeld
Subject: Moral Dry Rot in Academia "and Beyond"

Representative Amy Binsfeld

The Moral Dry Rot in Academia "and Beyond" Goes Far Deeper than Student Storm Troopers at One College by Thomas Sowell

Many people seem shocked at the recent savagery of a mob of students at Middlebury College, who rioted to prevent Charles Murray from addressing a student group who had invited him to speak. They also inflicted injuries requiring hospitalization on a woman from the faculty who was with him.

Where have all these shocked people been all these years? What happened at Middlebury College has been happening for decades, all across the country, from Berkeley to Harvard. Moreover, even critics of the Middlebury College rioters betray some of the same irresponsible mindset as that of the young Brad Hudson. The moral dry rot in academia — and beyond — goes far deeper than student storm troopers at one Middlebury College. Rioters betray some of the same irresponsible mindset as that of the young rioters.

Frank Bruni of the New York Times, for example, while criticizing the rioters, lent credence to the claim that Charles Murray was "a white nationalist." Similar — and worse — things have been said, in supposedly reputable publications, by people who could not cite one statement from any of Dr. Murray's books that bears any resemblance to their smears.

Academia, however, is ground zero in the war against people whose ideas go against the current political correctness. The virtual monopoly of the political left, on campuses across the country, allows all sorts of things to be attributed to people the left disagrees with, irrespective of whether those people have ever said anything resembling what they are alleged to have said.

The professors don't usually riot against people whose ideas they disagree with, because they can just dismiss those ideas, with some characterization that there is no one on hand to challenge.

Professor William Julius Wilson of Harvard, for example, said of Justice Clarence Thomas, "He'll say he pulled himself up by his own bootstraps. I say I was in the right place at the right time."

Just where did Justice Thomas say that he pulled himself up by his own bootstraps? The central theme of his autobiography, titled "My Grandfather's Son," credits the wisdom of the grandfather who raised him as what saved him.

Nuns who taught him in school were brought to Washington, at his expense, to be present to see him sworn in as a Justice of the Supreme Court, to see that their dedicated efforts on his behalf had not been in vain.

But has anyone ever asked Professor Wilson on just what he based his claim about Justice Thomas? The central tragedy of academia today is that you don't have to have anything on which to base dismissals of people and ideas you disagree with.

This attitude is not unique to William Julius Wilson or to Harvard. On the west coast, Professor Lanny Ebenstein of the University of California at Santa Barbara has included economists Stephen Moore and Walter Williams, as well as television host John Stossel, among those "committed to the welfare of the top few."

Professor Ebenstein has every right to disagree with these individuals on economic or other issues. But that is very different from attributing to them a commitment to "the welfare of the top few."

It so happens that I have read books by all three, without finding any preoccupation with the welfare of the affluent or the rich. I have known Walter Williams for more than 40 years. When we both lived on the east coast, we and our wives often met socially.

In all that time, neither in public nor in private did I ever hear Walter Williams express the slightest concern for the welfare of the affluent or the rich. Innumerable times I heard him focus his concern on the well-being of people like himself, from a poverty background.

That concern was also expressed in deeds as well as words.

But who is going to ask Professor Ebenstein to cite the basis for his claim?

Why should we expect students to welcome debate about differences of opinion, when so many of their professors seem to think cheap shot dismissals are all you need? Lacking their professors' verbal dexterity or aura of authority, students use cruder methods of dismissing things they disagree with.

So long as academia talks demographic "diversity" and practices groupthink when it comes to ideas, we have little reason to expect better of student mobs that riot with impunity. Thomas Sowell, March 14, 2017

Very informative

Paul Stuber

Dannhauser, Samantha

From: Rep.Binsfeld
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 12:47 PM
To: Teri Strub
Subject: RE: AB 415: NO

Good afternoon Teri:

Thank you for reaching out and sharing your thoughts. I understand where your thought process is, but in being forthcoming I want to share that I already voted yes on the legislation in September. I understand the senate is taking this up today, but the assembly passed it months ago.

I am hopeful that we can come together as a state legislature and do what is best for the situation.

Respectfully,



Amy Binsfeld

STATE REPRESENTATIVE | 27TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT
P.O. Box 8952 | Madison, WI 53708
(608) 237- 9127 | Rep.Binsfeld@legis.wisconsin.gov

From: Teri Strub <teristrub@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 12:34 PM
To: Rep.Binsfeld <Rep.Binsfeld@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: AB 415: NO

Rep. Binsfeld,

I urge you to vote No on AB 415. The sequence of events around this bill is highly suspicious. Fair maps are overdue in Wisconsin and AB415 is looking like it's flying under the radar. What does that say about being fair?

Teri Strub
Plymouth

Dannhauser, Samantha

From: Rep.Binsfeld
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 9:07 AM
To: John Binder
Subject: RE: WE WANT FAIR & REPRESENTATIVE MAPS!

Good Morning John:

Thank you for weighing in on your continued thoughts with the maps. I too want to see what are deemed fair and acceptable maps and hope that in time we can find balance in our process.

I have learned that days in Madison are never boring. I would not have expected today to be walking in the rain, but hope that you can enjoy your day and evening as I'm sure you will watch the Governor's address.

Respectfully,



Amy Binsfeld

STATE REPRESENTATIVE | 27TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT
P.O. Box 8952 | Madison, WI 53708
(608) 237- 9127 | Rep.Binsfeld@legis.wisconsin.gov

From: John Binder <dpatric2@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 8:16 AM
To: Sen.LeMahieu <Sen.LeMahieu@legis.wisconsin.gov>; Rep.Binsfeld <Rep.Binsfeld@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: WE WANT FAIR & REPRESENTATIVE MAPS!

Hello Sen. LeMahieu & Rep. Binsfeld,

Yesterday at 4:00 PM and with less than 24 hours notice, the Wisconsin State Senate called a floor session for today at 3:00 PM to revive the flawed, partisan, and secretly vetted Assembly redistricting legislation, AB415.

Any map enacted by the Legislature that does not meet the Court's stated criteria should be rejected by the Legislature; and, if passed, it should be vetoed by the Governor so the State Supreme Court can do the analysis necessary to enact a remedial map that is constitutional and serves the people of Wisconsin.

Senator LeMahieu and Speaker Vos should sit down with the Governor, as the people's representative, and negotiate a fair and representative map!

The fact that this session was scheduled with less than 24 hours notice -- and on the day of the Governor's State of the State Address -- reinforces that the majority of Republican Legislators have not and are not acting in good faith with the Governor, the Judiciary, and, most importantly, with the people they were elected to represent.

Also, Republicans need to get over the fact that the Supreme Court is no longer an arm of the legislature...we are back to truly having 3 independent branches of government!

Stop the political gamenship and reject this nonsense & do what the people want...that is...FAIR & REPRESENTATIVE MAPS!

Sincerely
John Binder
Plymouth