

Adam Neylon

State Representative • 98th Assembly District

DATE: April 14, 2021

TO: Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections

FR: Rep. Adam Neylon

RE: Support for Assembly Bill 173

Thank you Chair Brandtjen and Members of the Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections for hearing Assembly Bill 173.

While this committee continues to investigate what happened in Green Bay, it is clear outside election funding created, at the very least, conflicts of interest, questionable conduct, and distrust of the election results in the 3rd most populated city in Wisconsin. You may be aware that the same group who supplied Green Bay with \$1.6 million, they also supplied \$4.4 million to the cities of Madison, Milwaukee, Kenosha and Racine, for a total of \$6 million for the five largest cities in Wisconsin.

AB 173 does a number of things to guard against what happened in Green Bay last year where the administration of the city's election was taken over by an outside group for \$1.6 million dollars.

This bill does the following election reforms:

- Prohibits local clerks and elections boards from applying for or receiving private funds for the purpose of administering Wisconsin elections.
- If private funds are unsolicited and received by local election officials, the funds must be transferred to the Wisconsin Elections Commission.
- The commission is responsible for distributing the funds equally on a per-capita basis to all municipal clerks and boards of elections, ensuring fair and impartial access to the funding.
- Requires ballot tabulators to take an oath of office like every other election official
- Prohibits employees of political campaigns from serving as poll workers.

There is an amendment to AB 173 that I will be authoring which does the following:

- AMEND Section 3 (Sub 2) of AB 173 to ADD language prohibiting any official or agent of a county or municipality from entering into a contract for election administration that dictates the processes and procedures that must be used, contains a provision for recoupment of funds (so-called "clawback" provision) or transfers responsibility for the administration of all or part of an election to any entity not designated by state law as responsible for election administration.

- AMEND Section 3 (Sub 3) of AB 173 to ADD that the Elections Commission shall not accept any donation or grant of private resources that contains conditions for the funds' use or a provision for the recoupment of funds.
- AMEND Section 3 (Sub 3) of AB 173 to ADD language clarifying that money distributed by WEC on a per-capita basis MUST be used for election purposes.

Thank you for your time.



DUEY STROEBEL

STATE SENATOR • 20TH DISTRICT

Testimony on AB 173

April 14, 2021

Good morning Chair Brandtjen and members of the Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections. Last year, out-of-state billionaires attempted to buy and bully their way into election administration in Wisconsin. AB 173 ensures that never again will Wisconsin elections be subject to a massive spending campaign that blurs the line between impartial election administration and partisan political operation.

State law carefully regulates how political campaigns and non-candidate groups spend money advocating for issues, supporting their preferred candidate and engaging in political speech. There is no similar regulation for private funds awarded under contract to government entities responsible for administering and conducting our elections.

Last year, one out-of-state special interest group gave \$6.3 million to just five Wisconsin cities for the ostensible purpose of helping conduct elections in a COVID-19 environment.¹ What we have since learned - thanks in part to the work of this committee - is that those grants came with significant strings attached. They were not an altruistic blank-check donation. Rather the “contracts” that accompanied the money spelled out specific benchmarks that municipalities had to meet or they would risk losing the money.²

Among the various requirements was a close collaboration with partisan staff employed by a handful of non-profit organizations that advocate for explicit public policy goals.³ In Green Bay, for example, overtly partisan activists employed by out-of-state special interests ran roughshod over a municipal clerk who was doing her best to administer the November 2020 election. According to news reports, that clerk subsequently resigned after Green Bay Mayor Eric Genrich refused to stand up for her and her staff.⁴

Emails released in investigative reports show the political operatives trying to interfere with the review of absentee ballot certificates, control access into a central count facility, establish

¹ <https://www.dailysignal.com/2021/03/11/zuckerberg-grant-allowed-outsider-to-infiltrate-presidential-election-in-wisconsin/>

² <https://greenbaywi.gov/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/466>

³ <https://wisconsinspotlight.com/conditional-election-grants/>

⁴ <https://wtaq.com/2021/03/09/state-senator-calls-for-genrich-to-resign-as-questions-brew-over-november-election-handling/>

internet networks and protocols for a central count facility,⁵ and establish procedures for handling and counting ballots.⁶

State law vests sole responsibility for overseeing a central count facility in a municipal clerk or an election official designated by the clerk.⁷ It further declares that at polling locations it is the duty of the chief election inspector to handle questions of process and compliance with state law.⁸ Nowhere does the statute authorize partisan operatives to supersede, bully or otherwise pressure election officials. It is unfortunate that outside money facilitated this kind of egregious, and potentially illegal, behavior in our state.

A review of the grants distributed by the Center for Tech and Civic Life here in Wisconsin found they had a partisan impact on voter turnout.⁹ Given the extraordinary concentration of these funds in urban areas and the relative absence of these funds in rural areas, that outcome is perhaps not surprising. It also echoes findings in a similar report on CTCL funds in Arizona. In that state, researchers also found a partisan impact on voting patterns after the group poured millions of dollars into select geographic areas.¹⁰

AB 173 ensures that any future grant or donation of money to support election operations in Wisconsin is distributed statewide on a per-capita basis. This ends the favoritism that results in partisan impacts on election administration. If a grant or donation was offered to a municipality or county, under the bill they would be required to reject it. However, the money could be donated to the Elections Commission who would then oversee the per-capita distribution of that money. The proposed amendment clarifies that no municipality or county may enter into a contract for election administration that transfers responsibility for election administration to a person or entity not designated as such in state statute. Further, the amendment prohibits conditional grants or donations to the Elections Commission.

Thank you for your time today and for considering this vital piece of legislation.

⁵ <https://wisconsinspotlight.com/emails-green-bays-hidden-election-networks/>

⁶ <https://wisconsinspotlight.com/special-investigation-infiltrating-the-election/>

⁷ Wisconsin Legislature: 5.86

⁸ Wisconsin Legislature: 7.36

⁹ <https://will-law.org/2021/03/11/analys-ctcl-grants-to-wisconsin-municipalities-boosted-democrat-turnout/>

¹⁰ [Microsoft Word - Arizona-Zuckerbucks-brief.docx \(thefga.org\)](#)



Election Commission

Commissioners
Stephanie Findley, Chair
Carmen C. Cabrera
Jess Ripp

Executive Director
Claire Woodall-Vogt

City of Milwaukee Testimony on AB 173/SB 207

April 14, 2021

Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections

Thank you to Representative Brandtjen and to the committee members for the opportunity to provide written testimony on AB 173/SB 207, relating to private resources used for election administration, appointment of election officials and providing a penalty.

The City of Milwaukee opposes AB 173/SB207, in particular the part of the bill that would restrict a local municipality's ability to apply for private grant funding for election administration.

In 2020, the City of Milwaukee was the recipient of over 3 million dollars in private grant funding from the Center for Tech and Civic Life. I was involved in our funding request from the very beginning and can testify under oath that my administration of elections in 2020 remained completely non-partisan. From the very start, I was asked for my professional opinion of the funding needs of my department in order to ensure that voters maintained access to voting during a global pandemic. Subsequent conversations took place between myself, the former executive director and our Election Commission staff, all of whom were committed to ensuring that we never had a repeat situation like the Spring Election of 2020, where the City of Milwaukee was only able to open five polling places due to a number of factors but ultimately because of a worker shortage of 900 workers for our usual 180 polling locations.

Without these private funds, we would have continued to face a poll worker shortage in Milwaukee. The private grant funding allowed us to pay \$100 additional hazard pay to each of our election workers in 2020 and 2021 – over an \$850,000 expense. Although the City of Milwaukee received CARES Grant federal funding, this money was not allowed to be used for hazard pay except in the case of health care workers interacting directly with COVID-19 patients. Throughout 2020, the City of Milwaukee was the epicenter of COVID-19 cases and deaths in our state. Many workers did not feel it was worth risking their life for their normal \$130 stipend. Increasing the pay by \$100, we were able to recruit younger students and professionals who found it worthwhile to take a day off work in order to be paid an adequate wage and to fulfill their civic duty.

Additionally, we used over 1 million dollars in funding to purchase absentee ballot processing equipment. The purchase of seven additional high-speed tabulators ensured that we had 12 machines operating and were able to process absentee ballots on Election Day by 3:00am on November 4th, a huge accomplishment for a City with nearly 170,000 ballots. For comparison, we finished at 3:00am in 2016 with only 64,000 ballots to process and six leased machines (with a rental cost of \$18,500 per machine). We continue to be able to keep up with Election Day absentee processing demands in 2021 since we now own nine machines and have been able to prepay for ongoing, unbudgeted maintenance costs.

Funds were also spent on non-partisan activities such as purchasing additional PPE and plexiglass (a total cost of nearly \$500,000 for the City of Milwaukee, which was offset by the private funding), security cameras, top-of-the-line secure drop boxes, voter education post cards and social media campaigns, and



providing voter assistance at libraries in the weeks preceding each election in order to help voters register or upload their photo IDs for an absentee ballot.

All activities conducted by my office in 2020 were in accordance with state law and were never partisan. In previous hearings, some legislators have mentioned that the grant funding may have had conditions attached and that somehow there was something improper about those conditions. The only requirement in the grant agreement, which I am happy to provide, was that the money be spent exactly on the activities or products that I indicated in my original grant application that it would be spent on – a grant application that I wrote in accordance with state laws and my duties as an election administrator. Having a funder state that they want their money spent in accordance with the activities applied for or else they could ask for the funding to be returned does not amount to partisan influence or any “strings” being attached.

The City of Milwaukee received a national network of non-partisan contacts to help provide technical assistance through the grantor, the Center for Tech and Civic Life. The type of technical assistance we received was far removed from my day-to-day execution of election duties. For instance, the Center for Civic Design reviewed our educational materials to ensure that they were designed to be easy to understand for voters. The Vote at Home Institute shared an excel spreadsheet where I could plug in the number of absentee ballots and Central Count staffing based on job duties to calculate how long it would take us to process ballots on Election Day. They also had a communications toolkit for sharing information with voters about voting by mail – a toolkit that I did not need, but I thought a clerk without a communications staff might find helpful. As a result, I attempted to share these resources with the Wisconsin Election Commission staff in order to spread the word to other communities across Wisconsin who may need and find the information useful. I am not a municipal clerk, so I did not have access to share the information directly through the clerk’s network.

It goes without saying that 2020 was an unprecedented year for election officials and our budgets. However, we continue to face funding needs in our field due to the high cost of election equipment, increasing administration costs due to numerous legislative changes and the ever-changing cyber security landscape. Now is not the time to reduce opportunities for us to find creative, non-partisan private funding sources which alleviate the burden on our taxpayers. With levy limits and frozen shared revenue, it seems irresponsible to not apply for available funding. It would not have been possible for our budget to absorb the increased costs associated with the 2020 election without these funds.

Finally, I would urge the Committee to provide greater clarification on the definition of an “issue advocacy group” before passing a law that would bar us from appointing an election official who is employed by an issue advocacy group. It is unclear to me whether an issue advocacy group as currently defined must be registered as a 501(c)(4) or if an employee of a 501(c)(3) could be barred from fulfilling their civic duty depending upon the mission of the non-profit. While I understand the desire to provide clarification and minimize the appearance of any partisan influence on election administration, we need to ensure that the consequence is not too onerous on election officials in hiring workers and that we are not too greatly limiting or restricting the potential pool of workers. Over the years, the City of Milwaukee has experienced challenges to recruit and train a qualified pool of workers. Thankfully, today, we are in a much better position due to this grant and I would ask you to more clearly define the intention and to not make the hiring process overly complicated.

The City of Milwaukee urges you to oppose AB 173/SB 207. Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.

For additional information and questions, please contact:

Brenda Wood, Intergovernmental Policy Manager, City of Milwaukee

bwood@milwaukee.gov - 414-339-9054

Testimony of Matt Rothschild

Executive Director, Wisconsin Democracy Campaign

Before the Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections

In opposition to AB 173

April 14, 2021

Chair Brandtjen and other distinguished members of the Committee,

I'm Matt Rothschild, the executive director of the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign.

Now in our 26th year, the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign tracks and exposes the money in Wisconsin politics and advocates for a full range of pro-democracy reforms so that we have a democracy where everyone has an equal voice.

I'm testifying today to oppose AB 173, and I'll get into the details in just a bit.

But before I do that, I want to take just a minute to discuss the context in which these anti-voter bills, and a raft of others, are circulating.

Let me be blunt: There is an effort under way, here in Wisconsin and around the country, to continue to cast doubt on the validity of the Nov. 3 election, the legitimacy of the Biden presidency, and the integrity of our elections.

In part, this is an effort to retroactively substantiate the bogus claims, repeated ad nauseam, by Donald Trump.

In part, it is an effort to feed the Republican base red meat, and on Jan. 6 th, we saw how a segment of that base reacts when fed that unhealthy diet.

And in part, it is an effort to erect barriers that interfere with the freedom to vote in an attempt to gain partisan advantage.

That is why we are seeing, in 47 states including Wisconsin, bills introduced that would interfere with the freedom to vote, the most basic freedom in our democracy.

Now on to the specifics of AB 173. It would impair the ability of clerks to find sufficient poll workers to conduct a smooth election. The bill prohibits an employee of an "issue advocacy" group from acting as poll worker. Does this mean that no one who works for the League of



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Women Voters or the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign or the ACLU can act as a poll worker? As it is now, clerks have a hard enough time finding enough poll workers. This prohibition would make matters worse.

For these reasons, the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign opposes AB 173. Thank you for considering our views.



AB 173

Wisconsin State Assembly
Committee on Elections and Campaigns

April 14, 2021

Adam Jordahl
The Hamilton Consulting Group

On behalf of Madeline Malisa
Opportunity Solutions Project

Chairwoman Brandtjen, Vice-Chairman Sanfelippo, and members of the committee,

My name is Adam Jordahl, and I am speaking on behalf of Madeline Malisa of the Opportunity Solutions Project, a non-partisan, non-profit public policy organization who works on election integrity issues in states across the country.

AB 173 solves a problem that Wisconsin is facing—the private funding of election administration. This bill ensures that billionaires are not choosing winners and losers and influencing local election operations.

We all know how democracy is supposed to work—citizens electing public officials to represent them and their interests. But that’s not how democracy worked here in Wisconsin in 2020, where private money funded the actual administration of our elections and opened the door to undue influence. In our democracy, elections matter. And that’s why this bill matters.

During the 2020 election, almost \$400 million dollars was provided by the Founder and CEO of Facebook to local jurisdictions across the country. Most of the funds were funneled through a nonprofit with significant ties to progressive groups. As you are well aware, these grants were unappropriated funds and all decisions about which jurisdictions would receive funds, how much they would receive, and why were decided by only that private group.¹ This was unprecedented and usurped the vital legislative process of administering fair and transparent elections. Funds for the administration of elections should not be administered in a partisan manner. And because states did not yet have policies prohibiting this practice, one billionaire was able to exert influence on election administration across the country.

Preliminary data suggests that Wisconsin jurisdictions received more than \$8.5 million in private money during the 2020 election. Milwaukee received two separate grant awards, totaling nearly \$3.5 million.² Madison got nearly \$1.3 million, and nearly \$1.1 million was funneled into Green Bay.³ Though the grants were touted as meeting the challenges presented by COVID-19, most of the funds were spent on non-COVID-related items. Grant money was spent on activities that included public service announcements and targeted get-out-the-vote campaigns.⁴

This private funding of election operations is a prime example of the outside influence on the election process that many Americans are concerned about, regardless of party. In fact, a story came out showing emails between Green Bay election officials and the grantor that proved this group was attempting to direct actual election decisions and operations. An election official even resigned over it—citing problems with the “non-profit interloper.”⁵ This bill will safeguard the administrative process of elections against the outside influence of private money.

AB 173 prohibits county and municipal election officials from accepting private money for election administration. However, the bill continues to permit the Elections Commission to accept private money and

¹ “Press Release: CTCL Receives Additional \$100M Contribution to Support Critical Work of Election Officials,” Center for Tech and Civic Life (2020), <https://www.techandcivicle.org/100m/>.

² Data is from public information responses received by OSP.

³ Ibid.

⁴ “Wisconsin Safe Voting Plan 2020,” Center for Tech and Civic Life (2020), <https://www.techandcivicle.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Approved-Wisconsin-Safe-Voting-Plan-2020.pdf>.

⁵ “Revealed: Emails Show Zuckerberg-Funded Group Overruling Election Officials, Accessing Mail-in Ballots Before Election,” The National Pulse (2021), <https://thenationalpulse.com/news/revealed-emails-show-zuckerberg-funded-group-overruling-election-officials-accessing-mail-in-ballots-before-election/>.

distribute it each municipality on a per capita basis. The Senate earlier this week amended the companion to this bill to eliminate private funding entirely.

Other states have introduced versions of this reform, which ban entirely the use of private funds in election administration. A similar bill recently was signed into law in Arizona, and at least a dozen states are considering similar legislation this session including Kansas, Idaho, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Wyoming.

In Wisconsin, we regulate money in elections—from monetary contributions, to candidates, to PACs, and lobbyists—and we have strict reporting requirements to the elections commission. In 2020, \$8.5 million dollars was used to administer Wisconsin elections with no regulation and no reporting. This should never happen again.

AB 173 will safeguard the Wisconsin election process and will help restore voter confidence by preventing outside actors from bankrolling the conduct of our elections.

Thank you for your time.

ROCK COUNTY, WISCONSIN

Office of the Rock County Clerk
51 South Main Street
Janesville, WI 53545

Lisa Tollefson, Rock County Clerk



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April 14, 2021

Testimony for the Assembly Campaigns and Elections Public Hearing

Assembly Bill 51 – Regarding to: public Notice of noncandidacy for incumbent local elected officials **SUPPORT**

- To keep elections open and transparent, we should keep our electors informed when an incumbent chooses not run again and when an incumbent does not file candidacy paperwork. As a clerk, I already follow the practices put in place with this bill.

Assembly Bill 172 – Relating to: publication of Elections Commission meeting minutes. **Informational**

- Support the posting of Wisconsin Elections Commission Minutes with an amendment on the timeframe. Being in the position of having had 4-hour meetings the day prior to an election, minutes were not my top priority. Running the election was. The Wisconsin Elections Commission staff provides support to 1,850 municipal clerks and 72 county clerks. The 24-hour time frame is not realistic close to an election.

Assembly Bill 173 – Relating to private resources used for Elections - **OPPOSE**

- The last year has been challenging. The funds from the different CARES grants did not cover the extra costs it took to run elections. Some of the municipalities in our county took donations of PPE and funds to purchase extra tabulating equipment. Companies donated meals for poll workers or paid their employees' usual salaries to help ensure we had enough poll workers at the polls. The November election turned into a huge community project to make sure our election ran smoothly. The number of people stepping forward to support our elections was astounding. By eliminating municipalities' ability to take donations, will you be stifling that positive community spirit that pulls us together?

Assembly Bill 198 - Relating to: defects on absentee ballot certificates, certain kinds of election fraud, and providing a penalty. **OPPOSE**

- This bill states that if the clerk receives an absentee ballot with an improperly completed certificate or with no certificate, the clerk shall return the ballot to the elector. There is no end date in the bill as to when the clerk can stop returning ballots with the defective certificates.

If my understanding is correct, the poll workers will not have any ballots with defective certificates to reject on election day, because the clerk must return those ballots to the voters. Unfortunately the clerk would also need to continue to return ballots with defective certificates that arrive after election day.

- The bill states the clerk must post the certificate defects on MyVOTE. Unfortunately, there is a disadvantage to the voters who do not have an email address on file or lack dependable broadband service.
- This will cause increased costs to municipalities. Each time an absentee ballot needs to be mailed back to a voter, it costs \$1.25 for postage plus the envelope and time. All of this because a voter's spouse forgot to add the city on the witness address line on the certificate envelope.

Assembly Bill 94 – Regarding to: allowing a pupil enrolled in a home-based private educational program to serve as an election inspector **SUPPORT**

- Current law allows qualified 16 and 17 year old high school students to work as poll workers. This bill adds students enrolled in home-based private educational programs to serve.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Tollefson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lisa Tollefson
Rock County Clerk



April 14, 2021

To: The Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections
Re: AB 173 and AB 198

Wisconsin Faith Voices for Justice is a state-wide interfaith education and advocacy organization. Together with the Wisconsin Council of Churches, we lead the Wisconsin Interfaith Voter Engagement Campaign. As people of faith, we are deeply committed to upholding our democracy and safeguarding every citizen's sacred right to vote.

I write today in strong opposition to AB 173 and AB 198.

AB 173 has several problematic provisions. It prohibits employees of advocacy groups such as ours from serving as poll workers. I have served proudly as a poll worker since 2018. I consider it an honor and a privilege to serve my community in this way. Currently, Wisconsin is facing a shortage of poll workers. I can see no rationale for limiting the pool of available workers in this way. By law, and under oath, poll workers are prohibited from talking to the voters about candidates or issues on the ballot, so the fact that I might advocate for an issue in my professional life has no bearing on my ability to be an effective poll worker.

Further, AB 173 would prohibit municipalities from accepting donations or grants from non-profit organizations for the purpose of election administration. In this past November election, over 200 municipalities received grants from non-profits that enabled them to fill gaps in state funding for necessities such as PPE, dropboxes, and additional poll workers. Courts repeatedly found that these grants were legal and appropriate. Grants were made to municipalities regardless of the political leanings of the voters in those areas.

(<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2021/03/31/gop-focuses-election-grants-5-cities-but-more-than-200-got-funds/7052464002/>)

If the legislature is concerned about private funding for elections, the solution is not to ban such funding, but to pass a budget that appropriately and adequately funds our electoral process.

22 Chautauqua Trail, Madison, WI 53719 Phone: 608-513-7121 Email: wifaithvoices4justice@gmail.com

The mission of Wisconsin Faith Voices for Justice is to draw on the wisdom, courage, and strength of our various faith traditions to advance the common good. As progressive people of faith committed to crossing religious boundaries, we uphold the dignity of all human beings. Through advocacy, education, and partnership, we lift the voices of those who are underserved.

AB 198 is similarly problematic. Current law allows election clerks to look up missing witness addresses or contact the voter for more information to cure a missing address. This bill would require election officials to return the ballot to the voter and post a notice on the voter's information page on myvote.wi.gov. This would inevitably disenfranchise many voters, and disproportionately affect low-income voters and voters in communities of color, rural communities, and urban communities where access to the internet is limited to non-existent. Few voters would know to check the information to begin with, even if they did have computer and internet access. Further, the postal service is slow and unreliable and to return a ballot to the voter and have the voter fill in the missing information and then send the ballot back is needlessly cumbersome, time-consuming, and again, will inevitably result in voters losing their right to have their vote counted.

We urge the committee to vote against these bills, which will do nothing to protect the integrity of our electoral process but will go far to interfere with people's legal right to vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Rabbi Bonnie Margulis
Executive Director

22 Chautauqua Trail, Madison, WI 53719 Phone: 608-513-7121 Email: wifaithvoices4justice@gmail.com

The mission of Wisconsin Faith Voices for Justice is to draw on the wisdom, courage, and strength of our various faith traditions to advance the common good. As progressive people of faith committed to crossing religious boundaries, we uphold the dignity of all human beings. Through advocacy, education, and partnership, we lift the voices of those who are underserved.

To: Representative Brandtjen, Chair, and members of the Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections

From: Barbara Beckert, Director of External Advocacy and Milwaukee Office Director

Date: April 14, 2021

Re: Testimony regarding AB 173/ SB 207 and AB 198/ SB 212

Chair Brandtjen and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to share these comments with you. Disability Rights Wisconsin (DRW) is the designated Protection and Advocacy system for Wisconsinites with disabilities. DRW is charged with protecting and enforcing the legal rights of individuals with disabilities, investigating systemic abuse and neglect, and ensuring access to supports and services. DRW provides education, training, and assistance to individuals with disabilities to promote their full participation in the electoral process, including registering to vote, casting a vote, and accessing polling places.

DRW is concerned that AB 173/ SB 207 may significantly restrict the number of poll workers. Wisconsin has experienced a shortage of poll workers, and this shortage is growing given that many experienced poll workers are aging. DRW and our partners in the Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition have worked to recruit more poll workers from the disability community, including people with disabilities and disability advocates. Our goal is to improve the accessibility and inclusiveness of Wisconsin polling places and increase awareness of disability related accommodations. SB 207 would prohibit appointment of any poll worker who is a member of an issue advocacy group. We are concerned this would disqualify many individuals from the disability community, as well as other citizens, who want to do their civic duty by serving as poll workers. It would also have a harmful impact on our municipalities who are in need of community members to serve in this important role.

AB 173/ SB 207 would prohibit municipalities from applying for or accepting donations or grant moneys for election administration. We are uncertain of the scope of this prohibition and it does raise some concerns. For example, in our experience conducting accessibility audits of Wisconsin polling places, we have seen many barriers including lack of ADA accessible entrances, pathways, and parking; and lack of curbside voting. Some municipalities have used donations and grant funding to address accessibility and curbside voting. We are concerned that these efforts could be restricted and deter much needed accessibility improvements. In addition, during the pandemic, grant funding helped address health and safety concerns at polling places. Many people with disabilities and seniors have a high vulnerability to COVID 19 and are at risk of major complications. We heard positive comments from some people with disabilities, seniors, families, and agencies about the safety precautions taken using grant funding.

Based on these concerns, we ask you to oppose AB 173/ SB 207.

DRW is also concerned about the harmful impact of AB 198/ SB 212 on voters with disabilities and older adults. This bill would prohibit a municipal clerk from correcting a defect on the completed absentee ballot certificate envelope. If a certificate envelope has a defect, the clerk must return the ballot to the elector and post a notification of the defect on the elector's voter information page on the MyVote website.

DRW operates a voter hotline which is open all year round. Last year, we assisted hundreds of voters with disabilities and older adults, the majority of whom were voting absentee. The voters we assist want to do the right thing and very much want to follow the law, but many are struggling to navigate a complex process. We heard from many voters who were anxious about how to correctly complete the application form for an absentee ballot, as well as the absentee ballot certificate envelope. The certificate envelope has very small print, is crowded, and **is not accessible** for many voters who have some vision loss. It's not a surprise that there are often mistakes in completing it correctly.

Based on the experience of the voters that we assist, it has been very helpful for clerks to correct a defect on the absentee ballot certificate envelope and honor the voter's intent. If this process changes and clerk must return the ballot to the voter, it is highly probable that there will not be enough time for the voter to correct the problem and return the ballot. Posting information on MyVote would result in inequitable access as so many Wisconsinites do not have ready access to the internet and to a computer or smart phone to view MyVote. The majority of voters who contact us for assistance do not have such access. We are concerned that proposed changes would disenfranchise many voters.

Rather than restricting the clerk from correcting defects, we ask policy makers to look at the root cause of these defects. What actions can be taken to reduce the number of defects? First and foremost, this should include asking the WEC to redesign the certificate envelope with guidance from national usability and accessibility experts. More public education is also important, as is doing usability testing on the instructions for absentee voters.

For these reasons, we ask you to oppose AB 198/ SB 212.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments and please contact us with any questions. We welcome the opportunity to work with you to improve the accessibility of our elections, and ensure that the voters with disabilities and older adults have the opportunity to fully participate in this important right and civic duty.

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF WISCONSIN

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www.lwwwi.org



April 14, 2021

To: Assembly Campaign on Campaigns and Elections
From: Statement for public hearing on AB 172, AB 173, AB 198

The League of Women Voters of Wisconsin believes that voting is a fundamental citizen right that must be guaranteed. Participating in our democracy by voting should be a safe, accessible and positive experience for all eligible Wisconsin residents. Lawmakers should avoid measures that place undue burden on the voter or erect barriers to voter participation. To that end, we have the following comments on the bills under consideration in the April 14, 2021 hearing of the Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections:

We support AB 172, which would increase transparency of WEC meetings by requiring that minutes be posted in a timely manner and maintained on the agency's website. Assembly Amendment 1 requires that the minutes include the full text of each motion debated and voted on by the commission, along with a record of each member's vote, a record of all motions and seconds made by each member, and a record of each member's status as being present or absent for any part of a meeting or hearing. While more detail can be added later, this will surely increase confidence in the work of the commission.

We oppose AB 173 for the following reasons: 1) while we believe some regulation of private resources used for election administration is reasonable, this bill would require Joint Finance Committee oversight over distribution of private funds by the Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) to counties and municipalities. This is excessive control by the legislative branch over the WEC and election administration in general; 2) the proposed per capita formula for allocating private funds ignores the great funding disparities for elections, where rural counties may have the most outdated equipment and need the most help; and 3) employees of nonpartisan issue advocacy organizations, especially if they are 501(c)(3) organizations, should be allowed to serve as election officials.

We oppose AB 198, which would require clerks to return to a voter an absentee ballot with an incomplete certificate and post a notification of the defect on the voter's information page in the voter registration database. While we could support legislation requiring clerks to inform voters of an incomplete certificate, this bill does nothing to assist voters to remedy the error or omission. It prohibits clerks from making common-sense corrections of a witness's address,

something we have supported since 2016. It only gives reason to disqualify the ballots of eligible voters.



WISCONSIN BOARD FOR PEOPLE
WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

April 14, 2021

Representative Brandtjen
Chair, Assembly Committee on Campaign and Elections
Wisconsin State Capitol, Rm 12 W
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Representative Brandtjen and Committee members:

The Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities (BPDD) is concerned that changes proposed in AB 198 and AB 173 may negatively and disproportionately impact people with disabilities.

Many people with disabilities, older adults, and other Wisconsin residents rely on absentee ballots to access their right to vote. Occasionally absentee voters or their witnesses may inadvertently make errors—such as the witness forgetting to complete their full address—on the completed absentee ballot certificate envelop. Most of these errors are minor and are currently easily corrected by the municipal clerk. AB 198 would prohibit the municipal clerk from correcting those errors and require notification of errors on the MyVote website. Many people who rely on absentee voting may also be people who have limited or no internet access or devices that connect to the internet and may not have e-mail addresses. It is unclear how a voter would be notified or discover there is an error if they do not know to check the MyVote website or do not have the connectivity or devices to do so. Delays in postal service delivery may mean there may not be time to return the ballot to the voter and for the voter to send it back in time for the vote to be counted. Inadvertent administrative error that are currently monitored and corrected by professional non partisan municipal clerks should not become a reason that people lose the ability to have their vote count.

Regarding AB 173, the ability for all citizens to volunteer and serve as trained poll workers is important civic engagement opportunity that ensures our elections run smoothly. Many people with disabilities serve as poll workers, work for employers who may meet the definition of issue advocacy group or rely on absentee voting to access their civil right to vote.

AB 173 would restrict citizens ability to volunteer as a poll worker based on where they work. The bill would prohibit employees of issue advocacy groups from serving as poll workers. This term is broadly defined in the bill. Many people work at nonprofit organizations, government relations firms, or represent clients that have clear policy positions and policy change recommendations. A person's place of employment should not be construed as endorsement of an organization's views or assumed to be an indication that these employees are any more likely to influence voters on the day of an election than any other volunteer poll worker.

The bill's definition of issue advocacy is unclear on how it is determined whether information is "made to influence the outcome of an election." Many organizations provide information about issues, their policy positions or recommendations, or upcoming elections to members or the public who may be potential voters in a non-partisan manner than does not endorse specific candidates. A position on an issue and timing of communications should not be construed as influencing potential voters, nor should employees of organizations that do issue advocacy be prohibited from serving as poll workers.

Wisconsin currently has a shortage of poll workers; artificially restricting who may volunteer can only exacerbate that shortage.

BPDD is charged under the federal Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act with advocacy, capacity building, and systems change to improve self-determination, independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion in all facets of community life for people with developmental disabilities¹.

Thank you for your consideration,



Beth Swedeen, Executive Director, Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities

¹ More about BPDD https://wi-bpdd.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Legislative_Overview_BPDD.pdf.

Savage, Bill

From: Marcia Griskavich <marciamg@charter.net>
Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 3:45 PM
To: Savage, Bill
Cc: Rep.Anderson; Sen.Agard
Subject: AB 173, AB 198

To whom it may concern:

By this email, I wish to record that I am opposed to AB173 and AB198 as written.

I am a senior citizen who has lived my entire life in Wisconsin, the last 29 years in Fitchburg. As a retiree, I have served as an election inspector in other years, but voted absentee for each election this past year.

I am concerned that the changes being proposed by these bills will limit the access to those who have difficulty getting to their polling places on Election Day or getting their absentee ballot returned to the clerk's office by Election Day. There is a shortage of poll workers currently, so the limits being proposed as to who can work at the polls will make it even more difficult for clerks to find workers for these long days.

Regarding AB198, people who are indefinitely confined may have difficulty reading the ballot envelopes because of small print. If there is missing information on the ballot envelope that has been returned to the clerk's office, requiring that it be sent back to the voter, the voter may not understand why. And many seniors do not have internet or computers to visit the My Vote site.

I can't imagine that anyone visits the My Vote site on Election Day, or any day after they've mailed or dropped off their ballot, so would not know that there was an error. These bills do not keep the voters, particularly us senior voters, who really, really, really want to vote, in mind. Therefore these bills should fail to be passed.

Sincerely,
Marcia M. Griskavich
5867 Woods Edge Road
Fitchburg, WI 53711
Sent from my iPad

Testimony of Jay Heck, Executive Director, Common Cause Wisconsin

Wisconsin Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections

April 14, 2021

In Opposition to Assembly Bill 173 and Assembly Bill 198

Common Cause in Wisconsin (CC/WI) is one of the state's largest non-partisan political reform advocacy organizations with more than 8,000 members and activists residing in every county of the state. We have been active in Wisconsin since our founding in 1970.

We oppose two of the measures being considered by this Assembly Committee today and urge members of this committee to vote against their passage.

Assembly Bill 173: This bill would regulate private grants for election administration and prohibit certain people from being poll workers. Specifically, the bill would

- Prohibit municipalities or counties from receiving private grants for election administration but allow the Wisconsin Election Commission to accept them. The Commission would be required to distribute grants only as approved by the Joint Committee on Finance with additional stipulations.
- Prohibit employees of the following from working as poll workers:
 - a candidate committee, legislative campaign committee, political action committee, independent expenditure committee, political party, recall committee, and referendum committee.
 - a political organization required to register with the federal elections commission.
 - an issue advocacy group

This legislation is aimed specifically at the so-called Facebook grants that were made nationwide last year by the Center for Tech and Civic Life (CTCL) to assist during the pandemic to provide much-needed funding for protection equipment and to help hire much-needed poll workers so that the November 2020 election could be conducted in a safe and sane manner. 221 counties, cities, towns and villages in every part of Wisconsin received welcome assistance to help conduct their elections – not just the five largest cities in Wisconsin that some would have you believe were the only recipients of this funding. The budgets of municipalities both large and small were strained to the maximum by the demands posed by COVID-19 and CTCL funding helped to alleviate that shortage and provide much needed assistance.

Lawsuits to block CTCL funding to Wisconsin were rejected last October by a U.S. District Judge, the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago and by the U.S. Supreme Court, specifically by conservative Justice and Trump appointment Brett Kavanaugh. The Wisconsin Supreme Court also rejected a lawsuit to block CTCL funding.

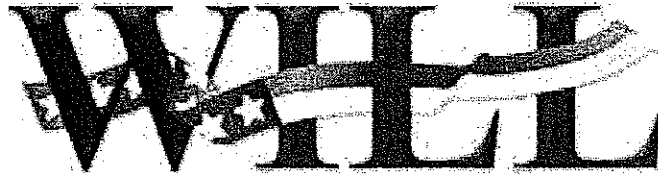
This legislation is based on a false premise that has already been adjudicated and rejected in the courts and should not be resurrected simply to "get back" at Facebook for making completely non-partisan and welcome resources available to assist in conducting elections throughout Wisconsin and the country during a time of national crisis.

This bill would also prohibit anyone who is an employee of a political organization or issue advocacy group from being a poll worker. This would reduce the current poll worker pool in communities across the state. Any employee of any political party or any employee of an advocacy organization like Common Cause WI, the NAACP, Right Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Conservation Voters, Tavern League of Wisconsin, the League of Women Voters, Disability Rights Wisconsin, AARP, etc. would not be able to serve as poll workers. We need more citizens participating and working as poll workers in our elections, not fewer. There is no evidence that poll workers who may have an association with a political or advocacy organization act improperly when carrying out their duties and there are already laws in place prohibiting electioneering at a polling location.

Assembly Bill 198: This measure, as introduced on March 25, 2021, makes changes to absentee ballot rules. Specifically, the bill would:

Prohibit a municipal clerk from correcting a defect on the completed absentee ballot certificate envelope. For example: a witness for your absentee ballot forgets to complete their address. Currently, the clerk may look up the address or contact the voter for information and fill it in. Under this measure, if a certificate envelope has a defect, the clerk must return the ballot to the elector and post a notification of the defect on the elector's voter information page on the MyVote website.

While there may be some benefit in having a uniform policy about how to "cure" defects in absentee ballots such as the lack of a witness address on an envelope, this most certainly is not a remedy. This measure would effectively disenfranchise thousands of voters through no fault of their own other than failing to ensure that the witness on their absentee ballot filled out their address. There is no evidence that the fact that clerks filled out addresses on some absentee ballot envelopes in anyway caused those absentee ballots to be fraudulent or invalid. The intent of this measure is to invalidate many absentee ballots and to discourage the utilization of absentee ballots to gain a perceived partisan advantage. This is voter suppression at its worst.



Testimony on Election Integrity Package
Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections
April 14, 2021

Thank you Chairwoman Brandtjen and members of the committee for allowing us to submit testimony today. My name is Kyle Koenen and I am the Policy Director at the Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty, a 501(c)(3) law and public policy center based out of Milwaukee. We are submitting testimony in favor of Assembly Bills 172 and 173.

Assembly Bill 173

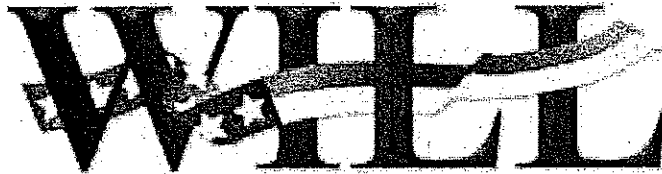
As I am sure you are all aware, the November 2020 election saw a large infusion of private funds to local government coffers through the Center for Technology and Civic Life (CTCL), a non-profit from Chicago that received a \$350 million donation from Facebook founder and CEO Mark Zuckerberg.

WILL is in the process of doing an in-depth analysis of these funds and how they were spent, pending response to records requests from a number of municipalities around the state. However, it has been publicly reported that the five largest cities received over \$6 million for the November election. While it has been pointed out that municipalities around the state received these grants, the amounts to other areas pale in comparison to the amounts received by these cities. To date we have received records from approximately 150 communities from around the state, of which 128 are for \$5,000 or less. While some locations like Marathon County received grants that equate to about \$73 per 1,000 residents, others like Green Bay received grants that equate to more than \$10,000 per 1,000 residents.

These disparate funding amounts create disparities in the effect of spending. We have already analyzed whether or not CTCL grants had an impact on the election, and found that turnout was indeed higher in cities that got grants than those that did not after controlling for 2016 turnout and the size of the municipality. On average, turnout increased by 61 votes in areas that got the grants over those that did not. This turnout change was far larger for Democratic voters than it was for Republican voters.

Democrats gained approximately 48 votes in areas that got grants relative to those that didn't. For Republicans, the turnout difference was not significant to the level of statistical significance that is generally required--95%. At the 90% level, Republicans gained approximately 16 votes in municipalities that got grants. Even if we utilize this lower standard for significance, there is a partisan gap on the net.

But this phenomenon ought not only be concerning to Republicans. The prospect of outside organizations coming in and impacting the election result is possible across the political spectrum--from CTCL to more conservative/libertarian groups like the Koch Brothers.



Government administration of elections should be impartial and fair, and this bill finds an appropriate middle ground that still allows for clerks to utilize private funds to help with election administration, but in a way that is equitable to every community across the state.

Assembly Bill 172

Assembly Bill 172 will improve transparency of actions taken by the Wisconsin Elections Commission. As evidenced by this past year, WEC makes a number of consequential decisions at their meetings. These meetings can often run for hours on end and members of the public don't often have the capacity nor desire to spend this amount of time monitoring their government at work. By publishing meeting minutes within 24 hours of the meeting's conclusion, average citizens can more easily monitor the actions of the commission. This is a laudable goal that advances a more open government and should be supported.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Kyle Koenen
Policy Director, Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty



City of Madison

Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway
City-County Building, Room 403
210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Madison, WI 53703
Phone: (608) 266-4611 | Fax: (608) 267-8671

To: Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections
From: Mary Bottari, mbottari@cityofmadison.com
Date: April 14, 2021
Re: AB 173, AB 170, AB 198

I am writing on behalf of the City of Madison to raise concerns with AB 170, AB 173. These are the first of many bills that will be taken up by the legislature addressing false claims of irregularities in the November 2020 election, claims that were not supported by any state or federal court, including the U.S. Supreme Court.

In the middle of the worst pandemic in modern American history, the Wisconsin State Legislature failed to take any action to aid localities charged with administering elections. Poll workers, with common sense safety concerns, quit by the thousands, and hundreds of polling places needed to be moved to keep residents safe. The state legislature failed to provide extra funding for additional staff needed to deal with these extremely challenging issues and the influx of absentee ballots. The legislature further failed to provide additional postage, PPE, plexiglass barriers, hand sanitizer, drop boxes or any of the provisions needed to keep voters and poll workers safe.

In the absence of legislative action, the City of Madison and over 200 other cities, towns and villages -- including Waukesha and Brookfield -- sought grant funding from a respected non-profit organization to help keep our voters and poll workers safe and to facilitate increased absentee voting. The Center for Tech and Civic Life has a list of these communities on its website. AB 173 would make it a Class I felony for any elections official to accept grant funding. The legislature instead should be appropriating funds to help localities prepare for the next election and allow municipalities to process increases in absentee voting, which are likely to become a permanent feature of Wisconsin elections.

AB 170 would allow election observers to stand 3 feet from the registration and voting tables instead of 3 – 8 feet under current law. This solution in search of a problem. Wisconsin and other states have had problems with over-zealous observers packing into polls, creating disruptions and intimidating voters. Current Wisconsin law allows election officials to create an appropriate distance based on room and crowd size.

During Madison's 2020 presidential recount, all election observers had close access to ballot processing in the large room secured by the County at the Monona Terrace. The County also secured hanging cameras so any overflow could be accommodated. However, in smaller localities with smaller rooms, three feet of distance may not be attainable and some flexibility is warranted. On a practical level, requiring election inspectors to work with observers stationed 3 feet away is simply onerous and risks interference with, and distractions in, administering the election as well as risking exposure of confidential information that may be requested for registration. For these reasons, flexibility will continue to be needed.

With regard to AB 198, the City of Madison anticipates that increased levels of absentee voting will be a permanent fixture in our elections. In an era of increasing absentee ballots, it simply does not make sense that clerks will be required to return ballots to voters (a process that could take two weeks or more by mail) for minor address corrections to exterior envelopes. A common error is when the witness (often the spouse of the voter) forgets to fill in their full address in the witness certification box on the envelope that the ballot is returned in, because the voter already has given the address. The legislature must allow clerks to correct minor issues via email or phone call or thousands will be disenfranchised.

Lastly, since there was no sustained evidence of wrongdoing on the part of election officials, we object to the series of new felony charges contained in these and other voting related bills applying to Wisconsin's respected clerks and election officials. They are among the heroes of this pandemic, who worked tremendous hours to protect our democracy and voting rights in a time of crisis in a nonpartisan and professional manner.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



GEORGE L. CHRISTENSON
MILWAUKEE COUNTY CLERK

Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections

Public Hearing

Wednesday, April 13, 2021

Written Testimony provided by Milwaukee County Clerk George L. Christenson

Chairwoman Brandtjen and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony before your honorable body. My name is George Christenson. I am the Milwaukee County Clerk. In this capacity, I also serve as Executive Director of the Milwaukee County Election Commission, which is comprised of three Election Commissioners, and led by Elections Director Julietta Henry.

Like each of you, I swore an oath to support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Wisconsin, and to faithfully discharge the duties of my office, to the best of my ability. In accordance with that oath, I support all efforts to improve our democratic process, including efforts to improve the accuracy, security, transparency and accessibility of our voting processes. While I see some provisions of these bills as advancing our common goals, I'm concerned that other provisions may lead to unintended outcomes, and some could ultimately undermine the integrity of our elections.

While the Office of the County Clerk is a partisan office in the State of Wisconsin, I do not wear a partisan hat when it comes to elections administration. It is our sacred duty to remain non-partisan and carry out our charge as election officials before, during and after election day. Our job is to count the votes and whoever gets the most vote wins. If our personal choices for candidates win, we're happy – if they lose we complain. That's Democracy and that's America!

I welcome the opportunity to work bi-partisan fashion with this committee and legislative leaders to identify bonafide ways to improve upon our election processes. Thank you.

Assembly Bill 51 – Support

I believe this bill is intended to increase the transparency of our democratic process. I feel it also encourages more people to seek public office. Good government hinges on a commitment to openness and transparency. AB 51 would ensure greater transparency and openness by requiring a public notice when an incumbent candidate, whose office is up for election, either files a notification of non-candidacy or fails to file a declaration of candidacy within a specified time frame. The intent of legislation requiring a notification of non-candidacy ensures transparency regarding which elected offices will be vacant, allowing potential candidates sufficient time to gather nomination signatures. Therefore, I support a modification to this statute that would require a public notice in the circumstances described in the bill.

Assembly Bill 172 – For Information Only

I believe requiring the Wisconsin Elections Commission to publish minutes of its meetings make sense. However, the 24-hour turn-around requirement is not realistic considering the meetings themselves have lasted as long as 12 hours. I respectfully suggest the committee amend the resolution to provide a more reasonable timeframe. Keep in mind, the Wisconsin Elections Commission does produce a memo shortly after its meetings that highlights critical and time-sensitive decisions. This memo is shared with all county and municipal clerks statewide and posted to the Wisconsin Elections Commission website.

Assembly Bill 173 – Oppose

I want to clarify for this honorable body and the public how common it is for government units to receive funding from outside organizations, including private businesses and individuals. For example, during the pandemic, municipalities all across Wisconsin relied heavily on the donation of Personal Protective Equipment (facemasks, hand sanitizer,

plexiglass screens, etc.) from organizations, businesses and individual to administer our 2020 elections. I don't believe that was the intent of the author of this legislation.

Any grants received by Milwaukee County were utilized on education, equipment upgrades and website improvements. For example, we were able to purchase 75 Express Vote machines for the November 2020 election. These machines replaced the obsolete Automarks. They are designed to support voters with special needs, and enabled for a more streamlined and secure voting process. I provided these machines at no cost to the suburban communities of Milwaukee County rather than the City of Milwaukee because I felt the City had its own resources to draw from whereas the smaller communities did not. This includes communities such as Franklin, Hales Corners, and Oak Creek where Donald Trump won both in 2016 and in 2020 - this isn't about partisanship, it's about helping communities administer elections and Americans voting.

I am also deeply concerned about the provision limiting who can be a poll worker. This provision could force people to make the uncomfortable choice between their livelihood and exercising their civic duty. Every municipal clerk in Wisconsin will tell you that recruiting sufficient poll workers to meet is becoming more challenging every year. This provision does not take into account some very real unintended consequences. For example, if someone works for the Disability Rights of WI, the NRA or Pro-Life Wisconsin they will be excluded from performing this civic duty. From my perspective this seems unfair. This provision excludes only certain people from the process and assumes the worst in people who are quite frankly some of our best.

Assembly Bill 198 – Oppose

This legislation aims to correct a problem that does not exist, with the consequence of disenfranchising the voters of Wisconsin. The current law states that if a municipal clerk receives an absentee ballot with an improperly completed certificate or with no certificate, the clerk may, but is not required to, return the ballot to the voter whenever time permits so that the voter may correct the defect. This bill disregards this safeguard which ensures the voter has time to correct their certificate and vote in the election.

The bi-partisan Wisconsin Elections Commission appropriately issued guidance stating that municipal clerks may correct these certificates if the missing information is obvious (such as a known street name that is spelled incorrectly) or they know that the voter in question is a registered voter living at the address stated, and otherwise fulfills all the requirements to vote in the election. If clerks across the state didn't perform this duty, valid, legitimate ballots could be thrown out due to so-called incomplete certificates, and eligible Wisconsin voters would be harmed when their vote is not counted for what many would consider a minor technicality. We have a responsibility to do our best to ensure all lawfully cast ballots are counted. We should all thank the diligent clerks who once again stood at the front lines of democracy in the fall of 2020 and carried out this solemn responsibility.

Assembly Bill 94 – Support

As the Milwaukee County Clerk, I often hear from municipal clerks that they have a shortage of poll workers. This bill allows home-schooled students to serve as election inspectors. Election inspectors take an oath to uphold the election law and I think it's great that we are trying to encourage our students to participate in the democratic process.