

February 7, 2005

FEB 10 2005

Return to:

Co-Chairmen of Voting Procedures Audit Committee

Senator Carol Roessler and Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz

18th Senate District 24th Assembly District

Room 8- South Room 314- North

State Capitol State Capitol

PO Box 7882 PO Box 8952

Madison WI 53707-7882 Madison WI 53708

Election Committee

✓

Greetings:

Thank you for doing the important work of keeping integrity in our voting procedures. I agree with Milwaukee Alderman Mike D'Amato that the Voting Procedures Audit should be statewide (Milwaukee Journal/Sentinel, January 28, 2005). Also, while deliberate fraud must be stopped, Lisa Artison, Director of the Milwaukee Election Commission is probably right in saying "layer upon layer" of human error likely is to blame for the problems had in Milwaukee.

My concern is with erosion of the voting process through carelessness and forgetting of the principles. I trust E. Michael McCann and Steve Biskupic will root out the fraud and probe the criminal activities, with the help of Milwaukee Police and the FBI. You will be concerned stopping the erosion. One Fox Point example is the introduction of little voting tables to replace curtained voting booths. Our neighbors file past while we are marking our ballot with a bold, easy to see, marker; we get no privacy for placing a secret ballot. Even worse, we must carry our ballot to a "smiling, helpful" community resident who turns our ballot face up to feed it to a scanner while various "Pole Watchers" hang around, chatting with the lady at the scanner. Earlier, an ominous-looking watcher took notes while we gave our addresses and checked in. I don't object to showing identification, but I do object to others seeing how I vote.

I lived in Mississippi from 1952 to 1957 and, believe me, casual intrusions such as these were done as intentional violations of the principle of the *secret ballot*. Pressure and intimidation came from one's conforming peers as well as the political opposition. The secret ballot is a safeguard to free voting, but it is being undermined by honest, systematic, procedural, carelessness in Wisconsin. Please be vigilant against erosion.

Sincerely,

Carolyn K. Stephens

Carolyn K. Stephens

8017 N. Santa Monica Blvd.

Fox Point, WI 53217

cc. Janice Mueller; Lisa Artison; Tom Barrett; Mike D'Amato; Jim Doyle; Joe Liebham;
E. Michael McCann; Jeffrey Stone



Joe Leibham

STATE SENATOR

Answers to Survey Sent out to 338 Clerks on 2/22/05

1. Do you support a photo ID requirement to vote?

	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Raw Number</u>
Yes	70 percent	83 Clerks
No	22 percent	26 Clerks
No Answer	8 percent	10 Clerks
Total:		119 Clerks

1a. Out of those that answered the question 1.:

	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Raw Number</u>
Yes	76 percent	83 Clerks
No	24 percent	26 Clerks
Total:		109 Clerks

2. If you could propose one legislative reform to be considered as a part of the work of this committee, what would it be?

	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Raw Number</u>
Eliminate Same-Day Registration	44 percent	36 Clerks
Return to previous Absentee Ballot System	30 percent	24 Clerks
Other reform measure	30 percent	24 Clerks
Total		81 Clerks

3. Did you send out address verification cards (AVC)?

	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Raw Number</u>
Yes	47 percent	56 Clerks
No	63 percent	63 Clerks
Total		119 Clerks

3a. Out of those that sent AVC, did you send undeliverable address verification cards to the District Attorney?

	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Raw Number</u>
Yes	91 Percent	51 Clerks
No	9 Percent	5 Clerks
Total		56 Clerks

Schutt, Eric

Subject: FW: WLC 0124/1 recording absentee ballots

-----Original Message-----

From: Paul Malischke [mailto:malischke@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, February 28, 2005 9:28 PM

To: Conlin, Robert; Kennedy, Kevin

Cc: Uselman, Tracey; Rep.Wieckert; Sen.Leibham; Sen.Erpenbach

Subject: WLC 0124/1 recording absentee ballots

To: Special Committee on Election Law Review

From: Paul Malischke

Date: February 28, 2005

Here are some suggestions concerning the proposed amendment to 6.88, Public Counting of Absentee Ballots.

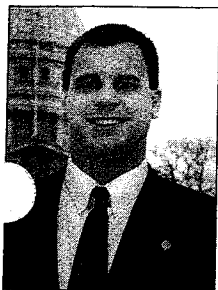
Lines 14-15: reads "deposit the ballot into the proper ballot box...". To this, add "or, if an optical scan ballot, into the tabulator". The current wording of the Election Day Manual does not differentiate between paper ballots and optical scan ballots, and has caused confusion for election officials.

The proposal does not mention at what point in the process to issue a voter serial number. It would be best to describe the entire process.

Consider whether the statute should mandate handling one ballot at a time through the whole process before starting with the next absentee ballot. Most busy polling locations bulk process them, ending by an election official feeding a dozen or more ballots into the tabulator.

Line 5 - Consider whether the carrier envelope should have a numbered seal to prevent tampering during transit.

03/01/2005



Chairman
Assembly Judiciary Committee

MAR 01 2005

MARK D. GUNDRUM

Capitol Office

P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708-8952
(608) 267-5158 • Toll-Free: (888) 534-0084
Fax: (608) 282-3684
Rep.Gundrum@legis.state.wi.us

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

District Office

5239 S. Guerin Pass
New Berlin, WI 53151
Telephone/Fax: (414) 425-2596

March 1, 2005

Senator Joseph Leibham, Chairman
Legislative Council Special Com. on Election Law Review
State Capitol 127 South
Madison, WI 53708

Re: Election Reform

Dear Senator Leibham,

I wanted to bring to your attention an issue of particular interest and concern to me. Last fall, hundreds of military personnel serving our nation honorably overseas did not have their ballots counted for the Nov. 2nd election due to the fact that the ballots were received by the municipality in the days AFTER Nov. 2nd. I am sure that you, serving as Chairman of the Legislative Council Special Committee on Election Law Review have a similar interest and concern.

I am presently drafting legislation that would extend by seven (7) days the time in which an absentee ballot may be received and counted by military personnel overseas. Every vote of Wisconsin citizens should be counted. This principle should be particularly adhered to in the case of our service members serving us honorably and, in many cases, risking their lives for us overseas.

I hope you will consider including my proposal in the omnibus election reform package your legislative council committee is now considering. I will get a copy of the proposed legislation to you as soon as I receive it from the Legislative Reference Bureau.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mark D. Gundrum
State Representative
84th Assembly District