



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DON VRUWINK

WISCONSIN STATE ASSEMBLY

43rd DISTRICT

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CONTACT:
Rep. Don Vruwink (608) 266-3790

Rep. Vruwink: No Need to for Secretive, Costly, Partisan Waste of Tax Dollars

Last December an appeals court declared Wisconsin's legislative districts unconstitutional and ordered the Legislature to re-draw the district boundaries to better reflect the voting patterns of Wisconsin voters. Today the Wisconsin attorney general appealed that decision to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Rep. Don Vruwink (D-Milton), the lead Assembly author of legislation to remove redistricting from partisan politics, issued the following statement:

“Many of my constituents have called me and are upset that the State of Wisconsin continues to spend millions of their hard-earned dollars to defend a secret, costly, partisan method of re-drawing legislative boundaries. A few years ago the majority party spent \$2.1 million on lawyers to draw and defend legislative districts that favored their incumbents and their candidates.

“In December an appeals court found the districts to be excessively partisan and unconstitutional because they effectively disenfranchised hundreds of thousands of Wisconsin voters. In January an appeals court ordered the Legislature to re-draw the maps.

“Last week the Republican leadership signed a contract to pay a law firm \$300 an hour to re-draw the maps – a job that non-partisan state agencies can do internally at no new cost to taxpayers. Now the Department of Justice will spend taxpayer dollars to appeal that decision. Many of my constituents and taxpayers across Wisconsin are justifiably upset.”

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