



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 8952 • MADISON, WI 53708

September 10, 2015

Representative Kathy Bernier, Chair
Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections
State Capitol, Room 314 North
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Representative Bernier,

This letter is to request a public hearing on Assembly Bill 328, which was referred to the Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections on September 3rd. Forty-six members of the legislature have signed on to AB 328, including members from both parties. In the past, you have expressed a willingness to hold a public hearing on this issue, and we hope you will take this opportunity to do so.

A recent study called Wisconsin the most gerrymandered state in America. The same expert who conducted the study called Wisconsin's gerrymandering "virtually without historical precedent" over the last 42 years. For the benefit of all Wisconsinites – Republican and Democratic – this cannot continue.

Currently, state law mandates that the legislature adopt new district borders every 10 years. Rather than allow politicians to draw borders and choose their voters, this bill assigns the authority to draw these borders to the non-partisan Legislative Reference Bureau and a to-be-created Redistricting Advisory Commission. This will help ensure fair borders even if one party controls all of state government, while giving the legislature final authority to adopt the maps drawn by LRB.

This bill is modeled after the redistricting process that has been in place in Iowa for more than 30 years, and it is supported by legislators, open government advocates, editorial boards, and voters throughout the state and on both sides of the aisle. It is time to give non-partisan redistricting a chance in Wisconsin. We respectfully request that a public hearing be granted for AB 328 to allow our constituents a fair, and thorough discussion of this issue.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to working with you on this legislation.

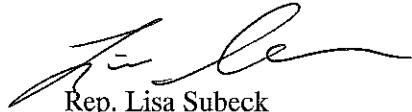
Sincerely,

Rep. Mark Spreitzer
State Representative
45th Assembly District

Rep. Dave Considine
State Representative
81st Assembly District



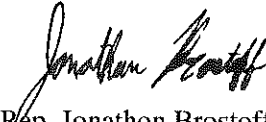
Rep. Beth Meyers
State Representative
74th Assembly District



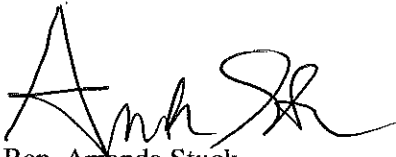
Rep. Lisa Subeck
State Representative
78th Assembly District



Rep. David Bowen
State Representative
10th Assembly District



Rep. Jonathon Brostoff
State Representative
19th Assembly District



Rep. Amanda Stuck
State Representative
57th Assembly District

Cc: Governor Scott Walker
Assembly Speaker Robin Vos
Minority Leader Peter Barca
Rep. Terese Berceau