

Democracy Campaign: Foresight of Justice Stevens

Posted on Jul 19, Posted by [Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, Matt Rothschild](#) Category [Wisconsin](#)



MADISON - I was sad when I heard the news that Justice John Paul Stevens had died.

I was sad for personal reasons, since Justice Stevens and my father practiced law together in Chicago for many years and were very close.

And I was sad for political reasons, since Justice Stevens, when he was on the Court and afterwards, used his calm and logical and brilliant voice to advocate for a pro-democracy jurisprudence.

Nowhere was this more obvious than in his scorching dissent in the *Citizens United* case, and I excerpted some of his most powerful passages here:

[Justice Stevens's Dissent in Citizens United Lives On!](#)

He warned that corporate special interests would have a field day, and so they have, here in Wisconsin, as we pointed out the record spending by corporations and PACs last season:

[PAC, Corporate Contributions Hit Record \\$27M](#)

And we also posted something this week on the record amount spent in the Wisconsin Supreme Court race earlier this year:

[2019 Supreme Court Race Cost Record \\$8.2 Million+](#)

This week, we also weighed in on the issue of the veto power of Wisconsin's governor, which we have consistently viewed as overbroad:

[Wisconsin Democracy Campaign on Gov's Veto Power](#)

And on Tuesday, there was a jam-packed press conference in the State Capitol in favor of legislation to ban gerrymandering in Wisconsin. Here's what I said at that press conference:

[A Democracy with Fair Play](#) (or watch [here](#))

Those companion bills, by the way, are **SB288** and **AB303**. Please [contact your legislators](#) to

support those bills, and please
contact the chairs of the relevant committees
to demand they hold public hearings on them.



The chairs of the Senate Committee on Government Operations, Technology and Consumer Protection are Senator Stroebel (Chair) and Senator Kapenga (Vice-Chair).

The chairs of the Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections are Representative Tusler (Chair) and Representative Sanfelippo (Vice-Chair).

You can reach state legislators at 1-800-362-9472 or 266-9960 in Madison.

Thanks for your activism on this issue!

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