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Judge issues temporary injunction blocking laws limiting the incoming governor's power. Evers, Democrats claim victory for the people of Wisconsin.

MADISON – The Dane County Circuit Court ruled Thursday in favor of the plaintiffs in the League of Women Voters v. Knutson case filed against the state legislature. During a lame-duck session last year, the Wisconsin state legislature passed a series of laws limiting the incoming governor's power, undermining the desire of the voters. Thursday's decision undoes these unconstitutional actions of the legislature.

Judge Richard G. Niess ruled that the plaintiffs were likely to succeed in showing that the laws were invalid because they were passed during an unlawful "extraordinary session." The Wisconsin constitution empowers the legislature to meet only in regular sessions established by statute, or in a "special session" called by the governor and does not allow the legislature to call an "extraordinary session" on its own initiative. The court concluded, "the people's liberty is imperiled by a Legislature that can meet at will any time, with little warning and even less of a published agenda."

Governor Tony Evers released the following statement in response to Judge Niess's decision to issue a temporary injunction blocking the Legislature's lame-duck session actions.





