

Wisconsin's Capitol a Disaster Area!

Written by Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, Matt Rothschild
Thursday, 11 February 2016 17:08

http://newiproggressive.com/images/stories/S5/mining_wisconsin_senate_s5.jpg



AB 723 limiting the ability of towns and counties to issue local IDs, AB 868 the "Mark Harris bill" prohibiting legislators from simultaneously holding the office of county executive, bills to siphon more of our taxpayer dollars away from our public schools, maneuverings in the Wisconsin Supreme Court, and more attacks on local control lead the list.

MADISON - I've spent a lot of time at the Capitol this week, and it's a real disaster area!

The Republican leadership is ramming through lots of bills that are bad for democracy and the common good.

I was up there Wednesday testifying against a bill, AB 723, that would limit the ability of towns and counties to issue local IDs. Here's my testimony:

[WDC testimony opposing AB 723, regulating photo ID cards issued by local units of government](#)

While I was waiting to testify on that one, I also gave impromptu testimony against a bill -- [AB 68](#) --

pushed by Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald to prohibit legislators from simultaneously holding the office of county executive. I said the voters ought to be able to decide that one for themselves, and I noted that many legislators have other jobs, including as mayors or county board members.

On Tuesday, I went to the Senate gallery to watch them debate a bill, SB 295, that would, for all practical purposes, block voter registration drives. Here's the alert we sent out on this one:

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[Wisconsin Republicans try to crush voter registration drives](#)

Also this week, Speaker Robin Vos has been trying to siphon more of our taxpayer dollars away from our public schools and into the lap of the owners of voucher schools. We show you the money behind this shell game:

[Who is behind more \\$\\$ for voucher schools?](#)

We also have been keeping an eye on the maneuverings in the Wisconsin Supreme Court to see whether the three district attorneys who joined the case will be allowed to appeal the court's horrendous John Doe decision to the U.S. Supreme Court. There's an effort by lawyers – including one who is now famous for his role in the Netflix documentary “Making a Murderer”—to have Attorney General Brad Schimel try to quash it, which we wrote about twice:

[Is Brad Schimel ace in the hole for John Doe opponents?](#) [Schimel angles for an invite to block John Doe](#)

And speaking of the Wisconsin Supreme Court, we've updated our database on the contributions to the candidates running to get on that bench next Tuesday:

[Supreme Court campaign updated](#) (If you want to find out who has been giving to which candidate, just click on the candidate's name once you open that link. There are links to "issue" ads and special interest spending as well.)

And while we're still on the subject of the state supreme court race, please keep your eyes peeled and your ears to the ground for any advertisement you see on TV or hear on the radio – or any mailing you get or billboard you see encounter – from outside groups.

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One way to do so is to go to our [Hijack Hotline](http://www.wisdc.org/index.php?module=wisdc.websiteforms&cmd=hijackhotline) on our website or by using this url:
<http://www.wisdc.org/index.php?module=wisdc.websiteforms&cmd=hijackhotline>

Or you could send us an email at wisdc@wisdc.org , describing the ad and where you saw it.

That's how we keep track of all the outside money!

Thanks for your help.