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(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ... PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS

2013-14

(session year)

Assembly

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on...

**State Affairs and Government Operations
(AC-SAGO)**

INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

- Appointments ... **Appt** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Clearinghouse Rules ... **CRule** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Hearing Records ... bills and resolutions (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
(**ab** = Assembly Bill) (**ar** = Assembly Resolution) (**ajr** = Assembly Joint Resolution)
(**sb** = Senate Bill) (**sr** = Senate Resolution) (**sjr** = Senate Joint Resolution)
- Miscellaneous ... **Misc**

* Contents organized for archiving by: Stefanie Rose (LRB) (December 2014)

Assembly

Record of Committee Proceedings

Committee on State Affairs and Government Operations

Assembly Bill 96

Relating to: prohibiting certain telephone calls using electronically prerecorded messages, rules for requesting a listing in the nonsolicitation directory, granting rule-making authority, and making an appropriation.

By Representatives Jacque, Nerison, Hintz, Bernard Schaber, Bernier, Bies, Endsley, Kestell, Kolste, Kooyenga, Marklein, Murphy, Mursau, Murtha, Ohnstad, Petryk, Pope, Ringhand, Sargent and Vruwink; cosponsored by Senators Harsdorf, Leibham, Carpenter, Cowles, T. Cullen, Lehman, Olsen, Risser and Schultz.

October 17, 2013 Referred to Committee on State Affairs and Government Operations

March 06, 2014 **Public Hearing Held**

Present: (13) Representative Weininger; Representatives Swearingen, Craig, Knodl, Ripp, Neylon, Hutton, Sinicki, Zamarripa, Ringhand, Kessler, Kahl and Hulsey.
Absent: (0) None.
Excused: (3) Representatives Kleefisch, Kooyenga and Nass.

Appearances For

- Andre Jacque - Rep. - 2nd ASM District
- Gordon Hintz - Rep. - 54th ASM District

Appearances Against

- None.

Appearances for Information Only

- None.

Registrations For

- Sheila Harsdorf - Sen. - 10th Senate District

Registrations Against

- Jason Childress - Great Lakes Higher Education
- Heather Weininger - WI Right to Life

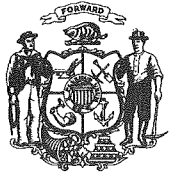
Registrations for Information Only

- None.

April 08, 2014

Failed to pass pursuant to Senate Joint Resolution 1

Alison Zikmund
Committee Clerk



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
GORDON HINTZ

WISCONSIN STATE ASSEMBLY

54th DISTRICT

March 6, 2014

Dear Chair and Members of the Assembly Committee on State Affairs and Government Operations,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony today regarding Assembly Bill 96, which would add political robocalls to the Do Not Call List.

Every election cycle, citizens are inundated by annoying, unsolicited political robocalls interrupting their family dinners and sporting events. Under AB 96 the Do Not Call List registration would become permanent and would add political robocalls to the list, similar to reforms enacted in Minnesota, Indiana and other states.

Recent election cycles have included an increasing level of these unsolicited political robocalls, with the 2012 election reaching a record volume of automated calls. This was reflected on the Wisconsin DATCP's annual list of top consumer complaints, where robocalls were once again at the number one spot on list in 2013.

As legislators, we are elected to work on behalf of those we represent. And I have never met a person who likes receiving these calls. We need to finally give folks the ability to opt-out. This is a bill with strong bipartisan and public support, but time is running out.

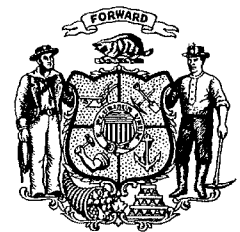
Thank you for your consideration,

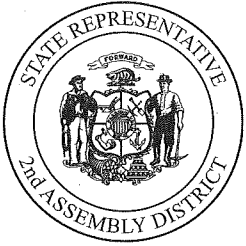
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gordon Hintz".

Gordon Hintz
State Representative-54th Assembly District



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE





ANDRÉ JACQUE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 2nd ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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Madison, WI 53708-8952

TO: Members of the Assembly Committee on State Affairs & Government Operations

FROM: Representative André Jacque

DATE: March 6, 2014

RE: Assembly Bill 96

Chairman Weininger and Committee Members:

Thank you for hearing Assembly Bill 96 and the opportunity to appear before you today as the Assembly author of this common sense legislation. I greatly appreciate the broad bi-partisan coalition of legislators who have signed on.

Simply having a phone shouldn't be an invitation for politicians and outside groups to disturb family dinners and clog up answering machines for weeks at a time. There is a reason why Wisconsin's Do Not Call list and this legislation are so popular! Unfortunately, auto-dialed calls have become increasingly popular for their ability to repeatedly bombard citizens at a minimal cost.

While legislation to include political robocalls within the protection afforded by Wisconsin's Do Not Call list has been proposed prior to my election in 2010, an additional component of my proposal the past two sessions is the idea of making registrations for the Wisconsin Do Not Call list permanent, as almost all states which maintain a Do Not Call List have already done. I am pleased that this element of my proposal has already passed both houses of the legislature this session as a standalone bill, SB 155, and awaits the Governor's signature.

Assembly Bill 96 is similar to reforms enacted in Minnesota, Indiana, Nebraska and other states to make registrations under Wisconsin's Do Not Call List permanent, unless rescinded by the consumer, and to expand the definition of "telephone solicitation" to include all unsolicited calls initiated by an automatic dialing announcing device, including political "robocalls" (all political calls were unnecessarily exempted when Wisconsin's Do Not Call list was created). Exemptions would still be allowed for school districts, for people with a current business or personal relationship with the recipient, or for a governmental unit to alert the recipient to a danger to the recipient's health or safety.

This bill does not exclude the rights of groups and organizations wishing to exercise their free speech through the use of a telephone- indeed, an outright ban on political robocalls without acknowledging the rights of consumers would likely be found unconstitutional. Therefore, similar to what other states restricting robocalls have done, calls initiated by a live telephone operator, such as the candidate themselves, or volunteers, would still be allowed.

Thank you again for your time and for your consideration of Assembly Bill 96.