

WISCONSIN STATE  
LEGISLATURE  
COMMITTEE HEARING  
RECORDS

**2003-04**

(session year)

**Assembly**

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

**Committee on  
Campaigns &  
Elections  
(AC-CE)**

File Naming Example:

Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

- > 05hr\_AC-Ed\_RCP\_pt01a
- > 05hr\_AC-Ed\_RCP\_pt01b
- > 05hr\_AC-Ed\_RCP\_pt02

*Published Documents*

> Committee Hearings ... CH (Public Hearing Announcements)

> \*\*

> Committee Reports ... CR

> \*\*

> Executive Sessions ... ES

> \*\*

> Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

> \*\*

*Information Collected For Or  
Against Proposal*

> Appointments ... Appt

> \*\*

> Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule

\*\*

> Hearing Records ... HR (bills and resolutions)

> **03hr\_ab0047\_AC-CE\_pt02**

> Miscellaneous ... Misc

> \*\*

## Griffiths, Terri

---

**From:** Freese, Steve  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 10:59  
**To:** Griffiths, Terri  
**Subject:** FW: Assembly Bill 47

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Kenburruss@aol.com [mailto:Kenburruss@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 30, 2003 1:25 PM  
**To:** Steve.Freese@legis.state.wi.us  
**Subject:** Assembly Bill 47

Representative Freese, I am writing to you in response to a letter I received from State Senator Fred Risser regarding Assembly Bill 47. The letter directed that any comments on the bill be shared with you at this email address.

As I understand it, Assembly Bill 47 would allow primary voters the opportunity to vote for the person of their choice for each office, no matter what the party affiliation. This is a noble idea and has much merit. However, I am writing to you today to urge against it. After some deliberation, I believe this bill would have an adverse effect upon our elections.

While it is a worthwhile measure to get candidates to focus on issues rather than partisanship, I am afraid this bill would not do that. Instead, I fear that the bill will in fact result in run-of-the-mill candidates who say whatever will please the most people while avoiding taking firm but possibly unpopular stands on the important issues. Rather than focus on the issues, we will have bland candidates who appeal to no one. At the same time, I have heard stories from my native state of Florida of members of opposing political parties using open primaries to vote against those candidates of another party that they feel would stand the best chance of winning in the actual election. If true, and I believe it is, open primaries allow abuses of the electoral system which currently do not exist.

I am in favor of those citizens who have registered as Independent being able to vote for whomever they want in a Primary election, because I do not believe a person's ability to vote should in any way be curtailed by political party affiliation. However, those who have committed to a political party should be kept from voting in the opposing party's Primary, not only to avoid abuses of the system, but also so that each party can field a candidate that truly represents that group.

Thank you for allowing me to share my opinions with you today and for taking time to hear my concerns.  
Sincerely,

Ken Burruss

**Griffiths, Terri**

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**From:** Kenburruss@aol.com

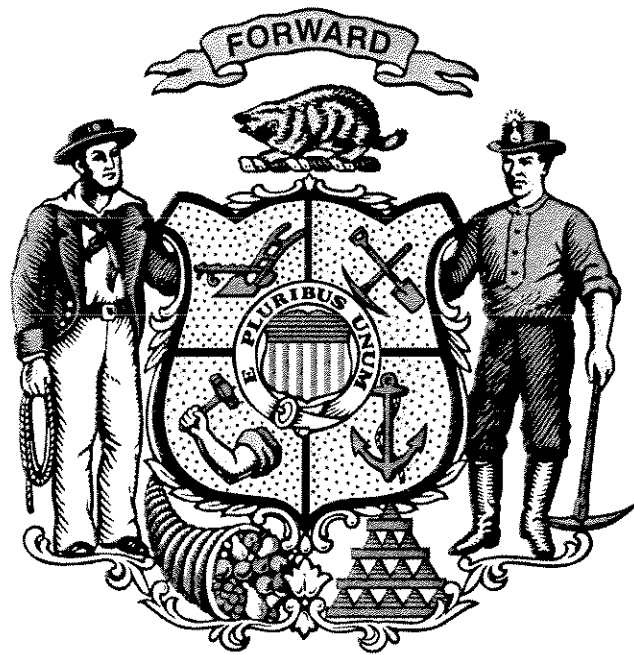
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 7:12

**To:** Terri.Griffiths@legis.state.wi.us

**Subject:** Re: FW: Assembly Bill 47

7545 Tree Lane, Apt. 111G

Madison, WI 53717



**Griffiths, Terri**

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**From:** Freese, Steve  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 10:59 AM  
**To:** Griffiths, Terri  
**Subject:** FW: Assembly Bill 47

-----Original Message-----

From: Ray and Madeline [mailto:raymad66@chorus.net]  
Sent: Saturday, March 29, 2003 1:09 PM  
To: Steve.Freese@legis.state.wi.us  
Subject: Assembly Bill 47

We are in support of Assembly bil 47 which will give us the opportunity to vote for the person of our choice rather than the party affiliation. We feel this will give us candidates who are our choice rather than a party's choice.

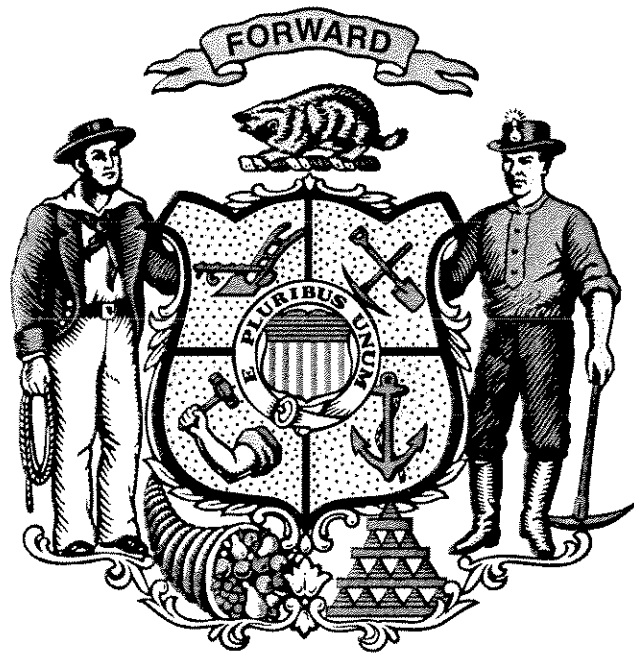
Ray and Madeline Laufenberg  
Middleton WI

**Griffiths, Terri**

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**From:** Ray and Madeline [raymad66@chorus.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 1:58 PM  
**To:** Griffiths, Terri  
**Subject:** Re:

Ray and Madeline Laufenberg  
6621 Wood Circle East  
Middleton WI 53562



## Griffiths, Terri

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**From:** Freese, Steve  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 11:00  
**To:** Griffiths, Terri  
**Subject:** FW: Assembly Bill 47!

-----Original Message-----

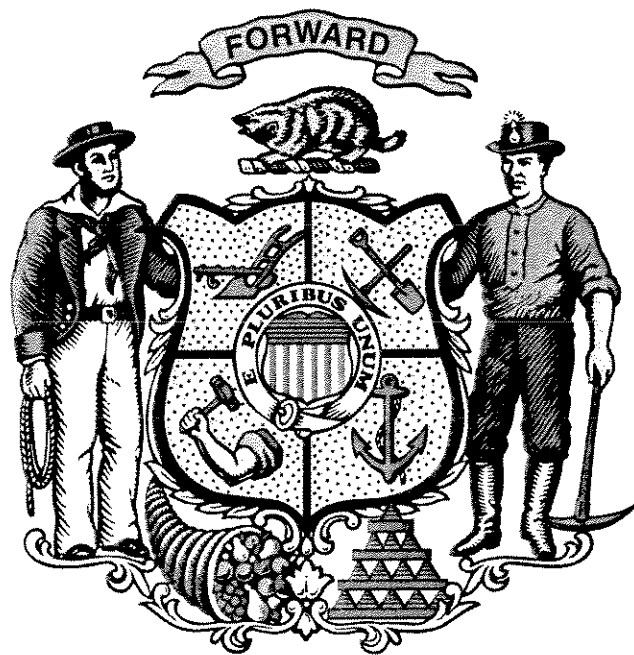
**From:** Harold Mack [mailto:hmack@tds.net]  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 29, 2003 11:33 AM  
**To:** Steve.Freese@legis.state.wi.us  
**Cc:** Sen.Risser@legis.state.wi.us  
**Subject:** Assembly Bill 47!

Dear Steve,

I support Assembly Bill 47, which would allow primary voters the opportunity to vote for the person of their choice for each office, no matter what the party affiliation. I find myself voting for different party candidates depended upon the issues each candidate supports. I believe the issues to be more important than the party.

Thank you,  
Harold Mack  
5818 Dorsett Drive  
Madison, WI 53711-3406





## Griffiths, Terri

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**From:** Helen Filipiak  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 11:10 AM  
**To:** Griffiths, Terri  
**Subject:** RE: Assembly Bill 47

Helen Filipiak  
5438 Brody Dr.  
Madison, WI 53705

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Griffiths, Terri [mailto:Terri.Griffiths@legis.state.wi.us]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 11:06 AM  
**To:** Helen Filipiak  
**Subject:** FW: Assembly Bill 47

Please provide your mailing address for the records of the committee on Campaigns & Elections. Thank you

-----Original Message-----

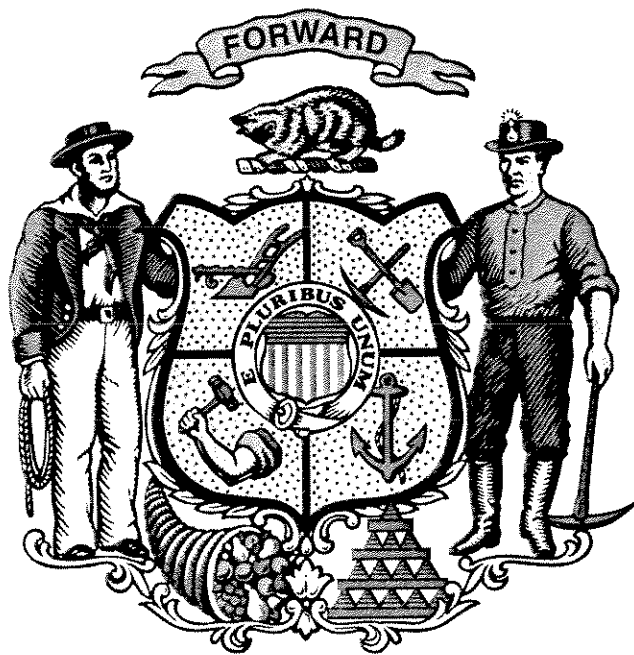
**From:** Helen Filipiak [mailto:HFilipiak2@pagtraining.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 8:20 AM  
**To:** Steve.Freese@legis.state.wi.us  
**Subject:** Assembly Bill 47

Steve,  
Am unable to attend a daytime public hearing, but count my vote in favor of Assembly Bill 47.

Also, isn't it time people had a chance to vote on a day other than a work day? Or how about via the internet or phone. Sort of like students register for classes over the phone or internet. Have Mr. Risser start working on that too.

Thank you.

Helen Filipiak



## Griffiths, Terri

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**From:** Freese, Steve  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 11:00 AM  
**To:** Griffiths, Terri  
**Subject:** FW: Assembly Bill 47

-----Original Message-----

From: Holly Simon [mailto:hms@plantpath.wisc.edu]  
Sent: Friday, March 28, 2003 9:15 PM  
To: Steve.Freese@legis.state.wi.us  
Subject: Assembly Bill 47

Dear Mr. Freese,

I would like to indicate my support for Assembly Bill 47, allowing primary voters the opportunity to vote for the candidate of their choice regardless of party affiliation.

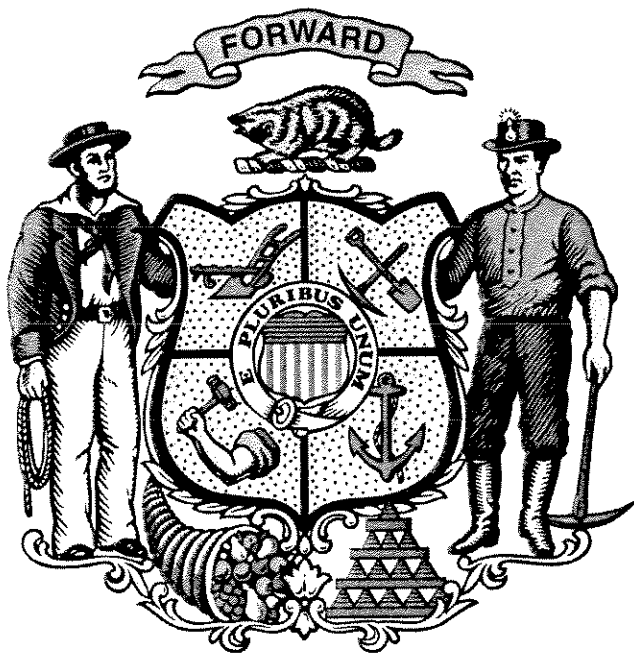
Sincerely,

Holly Simon

\*\*\*\*\*

Holly Simon, Ph.D.  
Assistant Scientist  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Russell Laboratories, Rm. 693  
1630 Linden Dr.  
Madison, WI 53706

Phone: 608-262-9815  
Fax: 608-262-8643  
Email: hms@plantpath.wisc.edu



**Griffiths, Terri**

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**From:** Freese, Steve  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 11:00  
**To:** Griffiths, Terri  
**Subject:** FW: Assembly Bill 47

-----Original Message-----

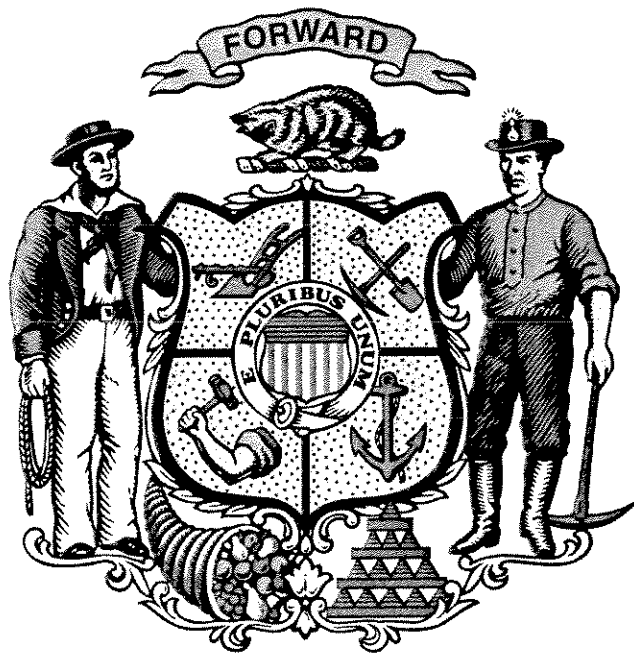
**From:** Patrick Fleming [mailto:pffleming@chorus.net]  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 29, 2003 8:11 AM  
**To:** steve.freese@legis.state.wi.us  
**Cc:** sen.risser@legis.state.wi.us  
**Subject:** Assembly Bill 47

Sorry, I forgot to include my signature block in my previous note..

I want to let you know that I fully support this bill that allows people to support the person of their choice. Voting a party line in the primary I don't believe serves anyone's best interest.

I believe Senator Risser co-authored this bill and I firmly believe it is a good bill to pass.

Patrick & Kris Fleming  
1 E Geneva Circle  
Madison, WI 53717



## Griffiths, Terri

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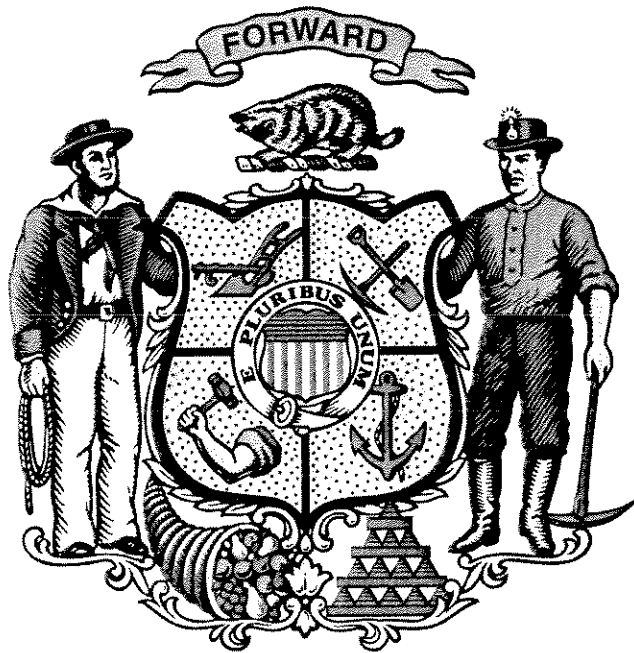
**From:** Freese, Steve  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 11:00  
**To:** Griffiths, Terri  
**Subject:** FW: Assembly Bill 47

-----Original Message-----

**From:** janice [mailto:jsteinberg@solvnetmail.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 28, 2003 6:50 PM  
**To:** Steve.Freese@legis.state.wi.us  
**Subject:** Assembly Bill 47

Representative Freese: I received a letter from Senator Risser today, explaining Assembly Bill 47. I will not be able to attend the hearing on it on April 3, but I wanted to share my support of it. In primaries, I don't think that voters should vote for candidates based on party affiliation, but on what the individual supports and does not support. My name is Janice Steinberg I live at 1632 Monroe St. Apt. A. Madison, Wi. 53711-2042. My phone number is (608) 256-4208 I have an answering machine. I would be interested in the outcome of this hearing, and hope that the bill passes. Thank you.





## Griffiths, Terri

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**From:** JOBrien [JOBrien@picwisconsin.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 11:16 AM  
**To:** 'Griffiths, Terri'  
**Subject:** RE:

Jill O'Brien  
22 Plover Circle  
Madison, WI 53717

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Griffiths, Terri [mailto:Terri.Griffiths@legis.state.wi.us]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 11:14 AM  
**To:** JOBrien@picwisconsin.com  
**Subject:**

Please provide your mailing address for the records of the committee on Campaigns & Elections. Thank you

Terri S. Griffiths  
Administrative Assistant/Committee Clerk  
Assembly Committee on Campaigns & Elections  
Office of Rep. Stephen J. Freese  
(608) 266-7502

## Griffiths, Terri

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**From:** Freese, Steve  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 10:58 AM  
**To:** Griffiths, Terri  
**Subject:** FW: I support Assembly Bill 47

-----Original Message-----

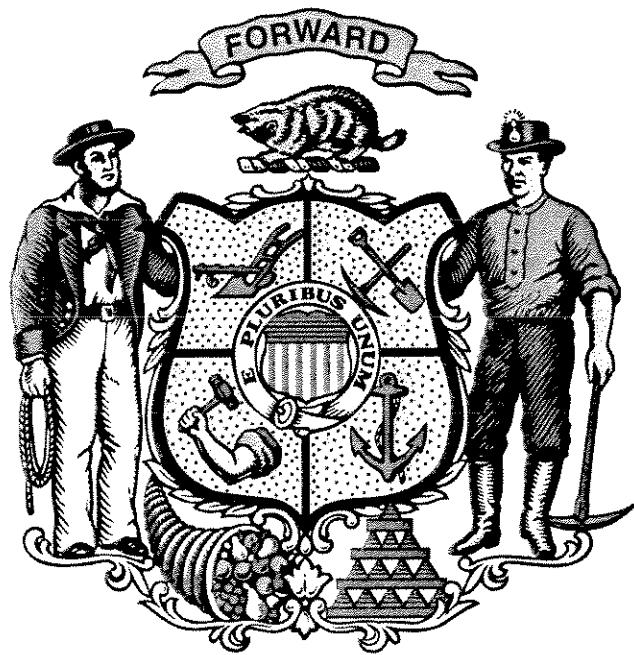
From: JOBrien [mailto:JOBrien@picwisconsin.com]  
Sent: Sunday, March 30, 2003 2:00 PM  
To: 'Steve.Freese@legis.state.wi.us'  
Cc: 'Sen.Risser@legis.state.wi.us'  
Subject: I support Assembly Bill 47

Dear Representative Freese:

I want to indicate my support for Assembly Bill 47 allowing primary voters to vote for the person of their choice, regardless of party affiliation.

Sincerely,

Jill O'Brien



## Griffiths, Terri

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**From:** Richard, Rob  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 11:48 AM  
**To:** Griffiths, Terri  
**Subject:** FW: assembly bill 47 -- I would support it

-----Original Message-----

From: Jane Sekulski [mailto:jane@physiology.wisc.edu]  
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2003 11:48 AM  
To: rep.freese@legis.state.wi.us  
Subject: assembly bill 47 -- I would support it

Dear Representative Freese,

I received information about bill 47, which would allow voters to vote for the person of their choice for each office, regardless of party affiliation. I understand there is a hearing on this bill on April 3, 2003. My own legislators are Fred Risser and Terese Berceau.

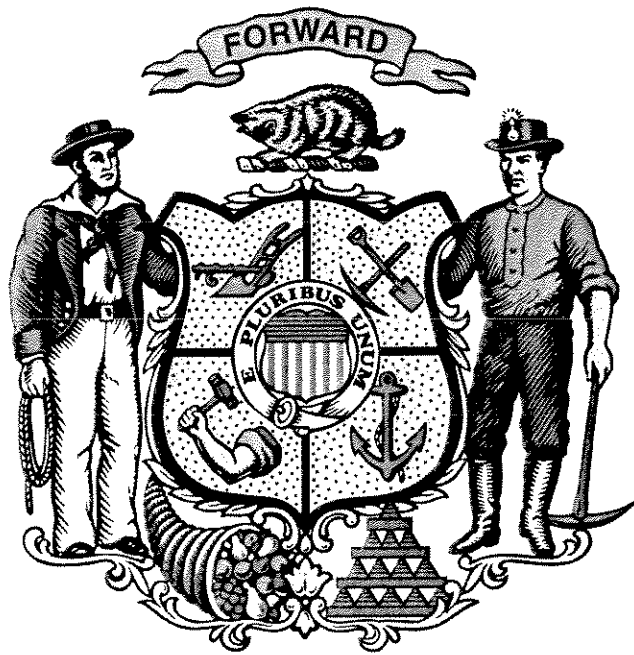
I can not attend the hearing, but I wanted to tell you that I support this idea of a "blanket primary". I was told that you are the chair of the committee that is reviewing this bill. I feel that I should not be prevented from voting for a given person for one office, simply because I want to vote for a person from a different party for another office.

I also wanted to say, and I know this is a separate issue, that I would support modifying our election system to allow each voter to vote for more than one candidate for a given office in a single election. There are variations on a process of this kind, one of them being "instant runoff", where the voter gives their 1st, 2nd, 3rd choices, etc. for a given office. Then, if a single candidate does not get at least 50% of the votes in 1st choices, the other choices can be taken into account in order to get a majority. Another variation is the "approve" or "disapprove" option, where voters can approve of more than one candidate, and the candidate with the most approval votes would win.

I know that there are pros and cons of all types of election processes. But I am very dismayed when a person who is not supported by at least 50% of the electorate gets elected because there are 3 or more candidates running.

Thank you for your time,

Janet Sekulski  
4115 Meyer Ave.  
Madison, WI 53711



## Griffiths, Terri

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**From:** Richard Lower [rlower@cals.wisc.edu]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 12:03 PM  
**To:** Griffiths, Terri  
**Subject:** Re:

To Terri Griffiths: As requested, my mailing address is 6406 Inner Dr.,  
Madison WI 53705. RLL

At 11:14 AM 3/31/03 -0600, you wrote:

>Please provide your mailing address for the records of the committee on  
>Campaigns & Elections. Thank you

>

>

>Terri S. Griffiths

>Administrative Assistant/Committee Clerk

>Assembly Committee on Campaigns & Elections

>Office of Rep. Stephen J. Freese

>(608) 266-7502

## Griffiths, Terri

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**From:** Freese, Steve  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 10:57 AM  
**To:** Griffiths, Terri  
**Subject:** FW: assembly bill 47

-----Original Message-----

From: Richard Lower [mailto:rlower@cals.wisc.edu]  
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2003 7:02 AM  
To: Steve.Freese@legis.state.wi.us  
Cc: Sen.Risser@legis.state.wi.us  
Subject: assembly bill 47

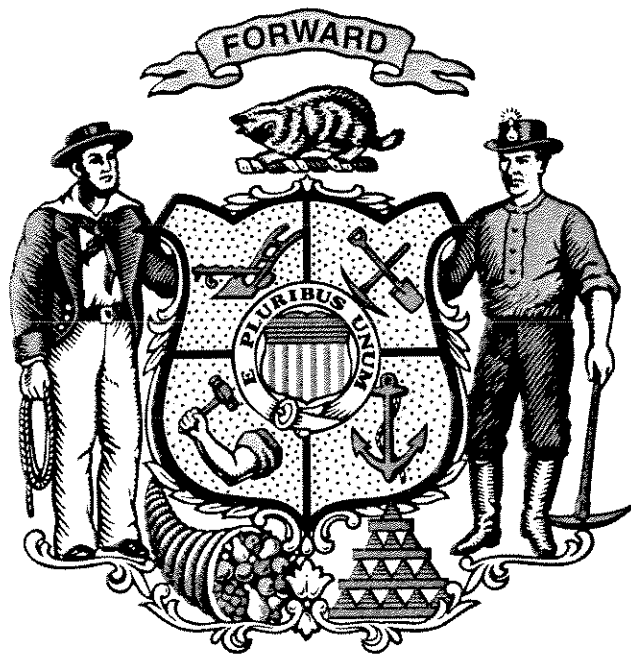
Dear Mr. Freese:

We are pleased that Assembly Bill 47 will be publicly discussed this week and we look forward to its advancement and passage. The Bill will continue to show the people of this state and others of this nation that our state is trying to increase voter interest in the democratic process and ultimately the selection of best choice. Thank you for your leadership on this important committee.

Sincerely,

Shirley and Richard Lower





## Griffiths, Terri

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**From:** John L. Schrag [schrag@chem.wisc.edu]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 1:55 PM  
**To:** Griffiths, Terri  
**Subject:** Re:

My mailing address is 221 South Whitney Way, Madison, WI 53705.

John L.Schrag

>Please provide your mailing address for the records of the committee on  
>Campaigns & Elections. Thank you  
>  
>  
>Terri S. Griffiths  
>Administrative Assistant/Committee Clerk  
>Assembly Committee on Campaigns & Elections  
>Office of Rep. Stephen J. Freese  
>(608) 266-7502

John L. Schrag  
Department of Chemistry  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
1101 University Ave.  
Madison, WI 53706

phone: (608)262-5898  
FAX: (608)265-5439

## Griffiths, Terri

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**From:** Freese, Steve  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 12:33 PM  
**To:** Griffiths, Terri  
**Subject:** FW: Assembly Bill 47

-----Original Message-----

From: John L. Schrag [mailto:schrag@chem.wisc.edu]  
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2003 12:22 PM  
To: Steve.Freese@legis.state.wi.us  
Subject: Assembly Bill 47

Dear Representative Freese:

I am writing regarding Bill 47 since I will not be able to be at the public hearing. I think that this is one of the most important bills to come up. The fiasco of the last few years regarding malfeasance in office on the part of several of our representatives and senators must be remedied as soon as possible in order to restore citizen's confidence in the Wisconsin legislature. It seems to me that allowing primary voters to vote for the best candidates regardless of party affiliation is a very important first step toward restoring ethical government to our state. This is a bill that I as a voter feel MUST be passed if this restoration of ethical government is to actually occur. Please do all you can to facilitate bringing this to a vote. The result will send a very specific message to us, the voters of Wisconsin.

Sincerely,  
John Schrag

## Griffiths, Terri

---

**From:** Freese, Steve  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 1:28 PM  
**To:** Griffiths, Terri  
**Subject:** FW: Assembly Bill 47

-----Original Message-----

From: Alice Drake [mailto:adrake@madison.k12.wi.us]  
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2003 1:27 PM  
To: steve.freese@legis.state.wi.us  
Subject: Assembly Bill 47

March 31, 2003

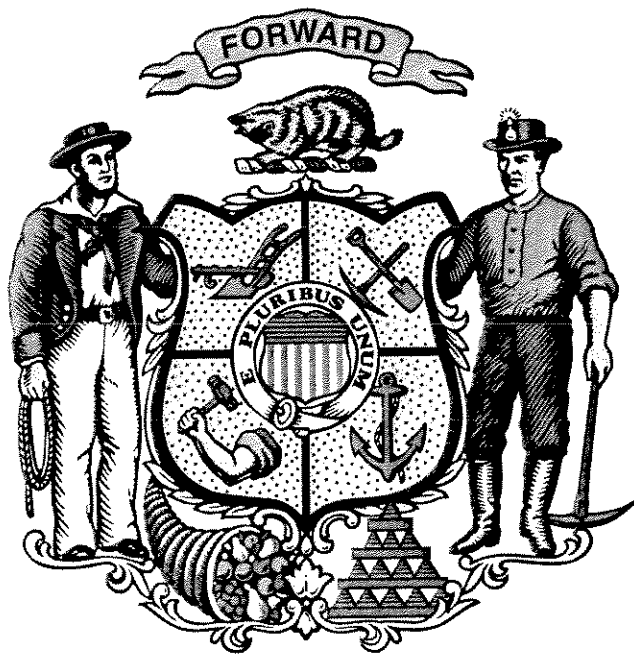
To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter at the request of my father, William H. Voss, 7223 Fortune Drive, Middleton, Wisconsin. His telephone number is (608)836-8187. My father is 84 years old and wishes you to know that he is in support of Assembly Bill 47. During his many years as a voter there were many times he wished he could vote in primary elections for the person he believed most qualified for the position even when that meant he would be voting for more than one party. This is an issue that he and many of his friends have discussed over the years.

Thank you for considering his opinion.

Alice Voss Drake  
7213 Longmeadow Road  
Madison, WI 53717

(608) 827-8728



## Griffiths, Terri

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**From:** Freese, Steve  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 3:18 PM  
**To:** Griffiths, Terri  
**Subject:** FW: Assembly Bill 47

-----Original Message-----

From: Jim Driscoll [mailto:jimd@pkklighting.com]  
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2003 3:21 PM  
To: Steve.Freese@legis.state.wi.us  
Cc: Sen.Risser@legis.state.wi.us  
Subject: Assembly Bill 47

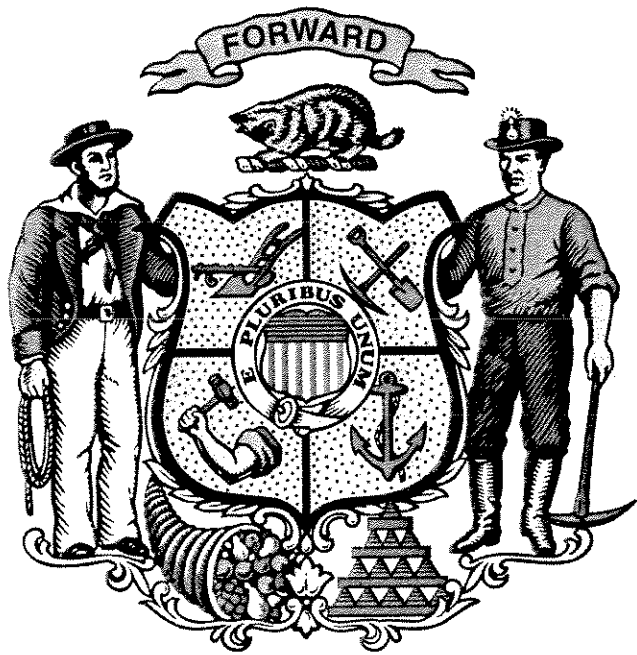
Dear Mr. Freese:

I urge you to support Senator Risser's legislation Assembly Bill 47, regarding Wisconsin's primary election process.

The election process should give all Wisconsinites the right to cast a vote for the person they feel is the best candidate, regardless of political affiliation. The right to cast a vote for whomever you select is a basic right of our country. We the voters should be able to select the best person, in our estimation, who will serve the State in the most efficient manner. In light of the current political corruption in the State Capital I firmly believe that being able to cast a vote, in a primary election, outside of party affiliation will encourage more people to vote in primary elections and would force candidates to focus on issues rather than on partisanship.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

James P. Driscoll  
3508 Cross Street  
Madison, WI 53711  
Email: jimd@pkklighting.com



## Griffiths, Terri

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**From:** Bolduc [cdbolduc@charter.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 4:26  
**To:** Griffiths, Terri  
**Subject:** Re: Assembly Bill 47

Chuck Bolduc  
1408 Parmenter Street  
Middleton, WI 53562

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Griffiths, Terri  
**To:** cdbolduc@charter.net  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 11:13 AM  
**Subject:** FW: Assembly Bill 47

Please provide your mailing address for the records of the committee on Campaigns & Elections. Thank you

-----Original Message-----

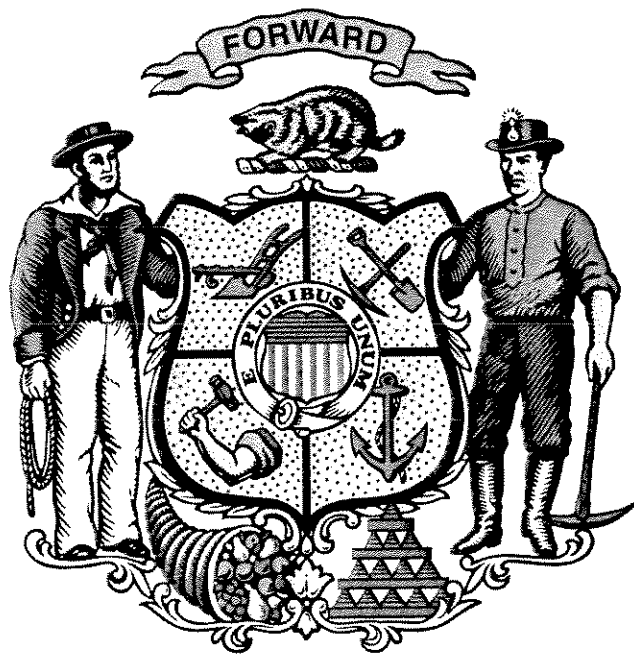
**From:** Bolduc [mailto:cdbolduc@charter.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 30, 2003 1:38 PM  
**To:** Steve.Freese@legis.state.wi.us  
**Cc:** Sen.Risser@legis.state.wi.us  
**Subject:** Assembly Bill 47

Gentlemen,

I have lived in Wisconsin most of my adult life and believe it is a great place. I have always been disturbed about the low voter turnouts we get especially at the primary level. Many people that I have spoken with over the years have voiced that they would like to have an open primary and I agree. My step father is a union man and worked at Oscar Mayer's here in town for 38 years. He agrees. Maybe this will encourage more people to vote if they knew they could vote for the candidate of their choice. Please consider Assembly bill 47.

Thank you,  
Chuck Bolduc  
Middleton, Wisconsin





## Griffiths, Terri

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**From:** Freese, Steve  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 4:53 PM  
**To:** Griffiths, Terri  
**Subject:** FW: Assembly Bill 47

-----Original Message-----

From: Zawacki, Janice K. [mailto:JZawacki@foleylaw.com]  
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2003 4:48 PM  
To: 'Steve.Freese@legis.state.wi.us'  
Subject: Assembly Bill 47

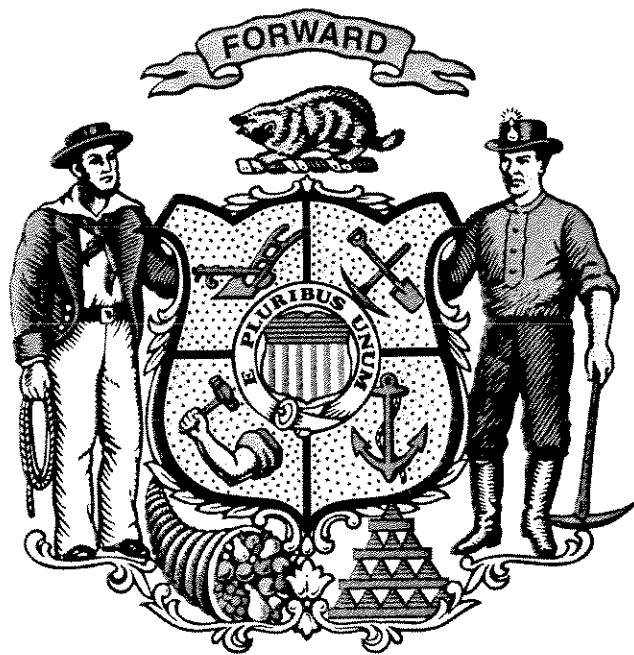
Dear Representative Freese:

Hip, hip, hooray! At long last. I whole-heartedly support Assembly Bill 47 which would allow me to vote in the primary for the person of my choice, no matter what their party affiliation. My neighbors don't vote in primaries because they feel forced to "declare a party." They wait for the election and pick from among the primary winners (winners that other people vote in). Yikes. How many others do the same?

In addition to just making good democratic sense, I believe Assembly Bill 47 could do a lot to get out the vote in the primaries (which typically don't do well percentage-wise).

Thank you.

Janice Zawacki  
628 Knickerbocker Street  
Madison, Wisconsin 53711



## Griffiths, Terri

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**From:** Freese, Steve  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 4:53 PM  
**To:** Griffiths, Terri  
**Subject:** FW: AB 47

-----Original Message-----

From: Galen Meling [mailto:galenmeling@yahoo.com]  
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2003 4:51 PM  
To: Steve.Freese@legis.state.wi.us  
Cc: Sen.Risser@legis.state.wi.us  
Subject: AB 47

Dear Representative Freese, I'm most grateful to Senator Risser for alerting me to the Assembly committee hearing you will convene on Thursday, April 3.

Each time I enter a polling booth during primary elections I experience a stab of anger == realizing once again how party affiliation prohibits me from supporting the candidate(s) I consider best qualified. I wish to register my strong support for AB 47. Since I cannot be present on April 3 I am taking the liberty to convey my view by email.

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Do you Yahoo!?  
Yahoo! Platinum - Watch CBS' NCAA March Madness, live on your desktop!  
<http://platinum.yahoo.com>

## Griffiths, Terri

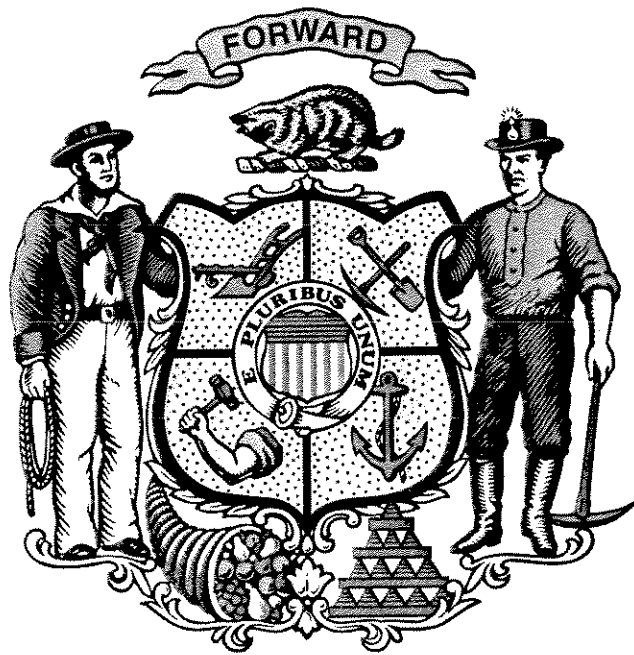
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**From:** Galen Meling [galenmeling@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 9:29 PM  
**To:** Griffiths, Terri  
**Subject:** Re:


Galen R. Meling, 1046 Williamson St., Madison 53703  
--- "Griffiths, Terri"  
<Terri.Griffiths@legis.state.wi.us> wrote:  
> Please provide your mailing address for the records  
> of the committee on Campaigns & Elections. Thank you  
>  
>  
> Terri S. Griffiths  
> Administrative Assistant/Committee Clerk  
> Assembly Committee on Campaigns & Elections  
> Office of Rep. Stephen J. Freese  
> (608) 266-7502  
>

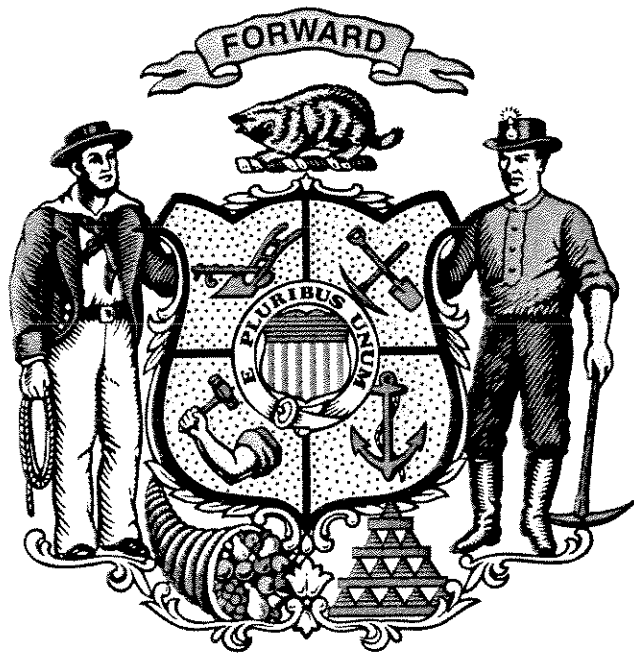
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Do you Yahoo!?  
Yahoo! Tax Center - File online, calculators, forms, and more  
<http://platinum.yahoo.com>



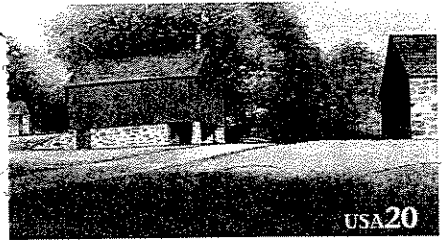
**WHILE YOU WERE AWAY**

FOR _____		DATE <u>3/31</u>	TIME _____	A.M. P.M.
M. <u>Carmilla Conley</u>		<u>Apr 310 53562</u> <u>Middleton</u>		
OF <u>8501 Old S20K Rd</u>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PHONED		
PHONE	<input type="checkbox"/> FAX <input type="checkbox"/> MOBILE	<u>608 - 662 - 0381</u> <small>AREA CODE      NUMBER      EXTENSION</small>	<input type="checkbox"/> RETURNED YOUR CALL	
MESSAGE _____		<input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE CALL		
_____		<input type="checkbox"/> WILL CALL AGAIN		
_____		<input type="checkbox"/> CAME TO SEE YOU		
_____		<input type="checkbox"/> WANTS TO SEE YOU		
SIGNED _____		 FORM 4002		

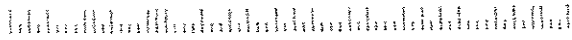




Margaret Fauerbach  
4914 Whitcomb Dr.  
Madison, WI 53711-2653



Rep. Stephen Freese  
P.O. Box 8952  
Madison, WI 53707-8952



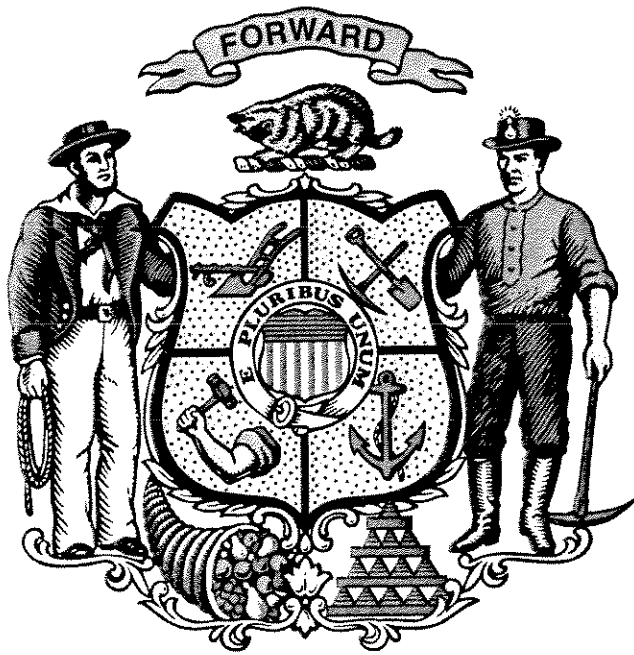
4-1-03

Dear Rep. Freese -  
Assembly Bill 49  
sounds like a great  
solution to the prob-  
lems of our Primary  
Election laws.

I'm asking you -  
the Chair of the Committee  
on Campaigns & Elections  
to seriously consider  
this Bill and en-  
courage you to back it.

With thanks for  
your attention -  
Margaret Fauerbach

Margaret Fauerbach  
4914 Whitcomb Dr.  
Madison, WI 53711-2653



March 31, 2003  
326 Main Street  
Darlington, WI. 53530

Representative Stephen Freese  
P.O. Box 8952  
Madison, WI. 53707-8952

Dear Representative Freese:

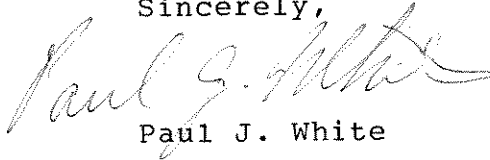
RE: Assembly Bill 47 - "Blanket Primary"

I highly support Senator Fred Risser's Assembly Bill 47 that would allow primary voters the opportunity to vote for the person of their choice for each office, no matter what the party affiliation.

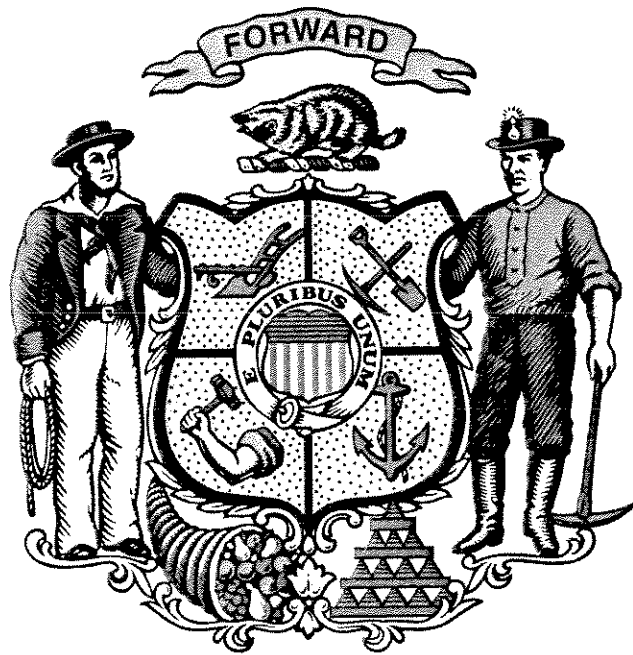
Our current primary restrictions create an atmosphere that makes many people indifferent and they disregard taking the opportunity to vote.

Thank you for hearing this concern.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul J. White". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Paul J. White



March 31, 2003

Arlie & Evelyn Hickox  
6638 Offshore Drive  
Madison, WI 53705

Representative Stephen Freese  
PO Box 8952  
Madison, WI 53705-8952

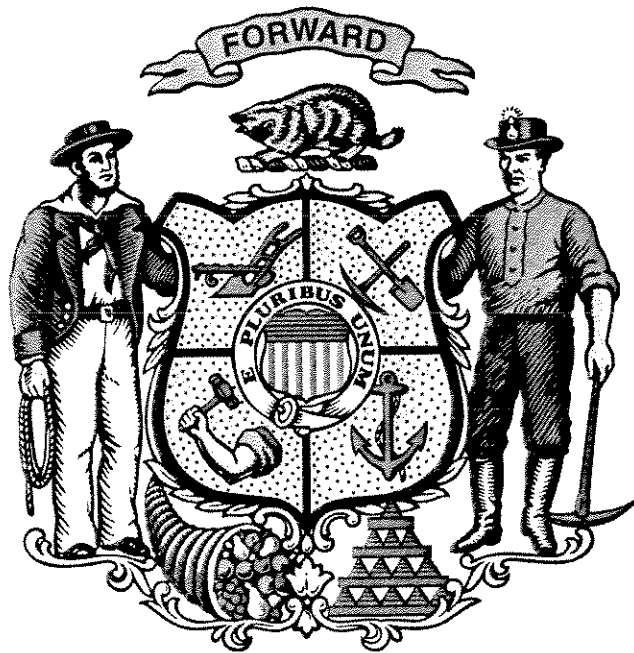
RE: Assembly Bill 47

Thank God for State Senator Fred R. Risser for his co-authorizing of Bill 47. Having to Vote in our primaries strickly on a party line basis is most certainly undemocratic and surely must discourage voters some of which simply refuses to vote. I have always wondered why we citizens of the State of Wisconsin are unable to vote for the person and party of our choice. It is more than time that we are free of this restriction.

It is very seldom that we care to vote a straight party line and I can see no reason in the world why I should be forced to do so in the primary.

Thank you,

  
Arlie Hickox



March 31, 2003

Representative Stephen Freese  
and to whom it may concern —

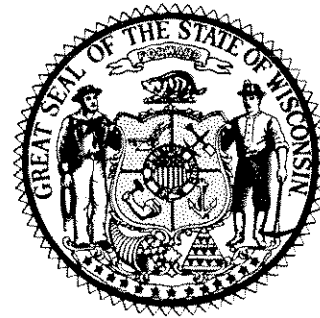
I am writing to give you my  
choice on election primaries —

I agree we should be able to  
vote in the primary for the person  
of our choice instead of (Candidate)  
the present blanket primary of voting for  
a party choice which is very undemocratic.

Karl J. Kaether  
1310 Rae Ln.  
Madison WI 53711

# FRED A. RISSER

Wisconsin State Senate



March 28, 2003

Karol Kaether  
1310 Rae Ln  
Madison, WI 53711-3334

Dear Karol:

This session, I have again co-authored legislation that, if passed, would change our state's primary election process.

Our bill, Assembly Bill 47, would allow primary voters the opportunity to vote for the person of their choice for each office, no matter what the party affiliation. I feel that this "blanket primary" would encourage many more people to vote in primaries and would force candidates to focus on issues rather than on partisanship.

**Assembly Bill 47 is scheduled for a public hearing before the Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections, at 1:00 p.m., Thursday, April 3, 2003, Room 300 Northeast, State Capitol.**

If you have an interest in this measure, I would encourage and invite you to either come to the hearing or contact the Chair of this Committee, Representative Stephen Freese, and share your views. He may be reached at P.O. Box 8952, Madison, WI 53707-8952; or by email at [Steve.Freese@legis.state.wi.us](mailto:Steve.Freese@legis.state.wi.us)

Thank you for your interest in state government and our community. Best wishes.

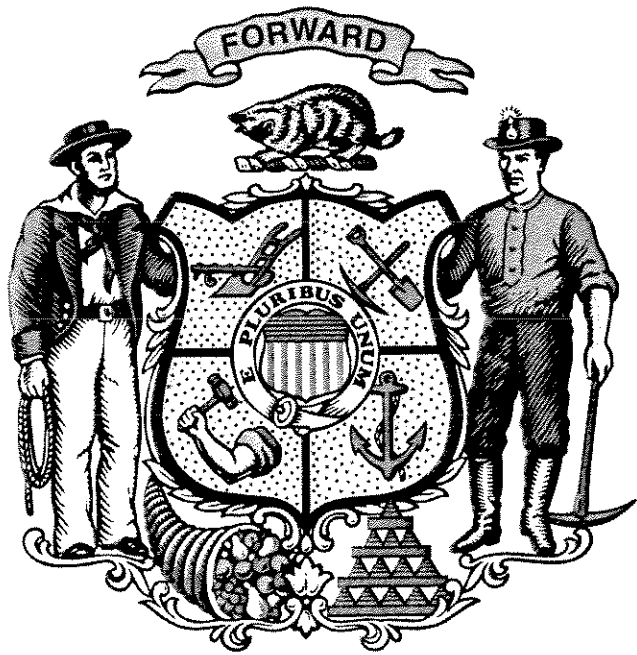
Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Fred", enclosed within a large, stylized loop.

FRED A. RISSER  
State Senator

FAR:lt





**Griffiths, Terri**

---

**From:** Freese, Steve  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 01, 2003 8:37  
**To:** Griffiths, Terri  
**Subject:** FW: Assembly Bill 47

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Don Haver [mailto:pepper3@chorus.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 9:23 PM  
**To:** Steve Freese  
**Subject:** Fw: Assembly Bill 47

Here is my mailing address: Donald E. Haver, 4918 Odana Rd, Madison ,Wi 53711

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Griffiths, Terri  
**To:** pepper3@chorus.net  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2003 11:14 AM  
**Subject:** FW: Assembly Bill 47

Please provide your mailing address for the records of the committee on Campaigns & Elections. Thank you

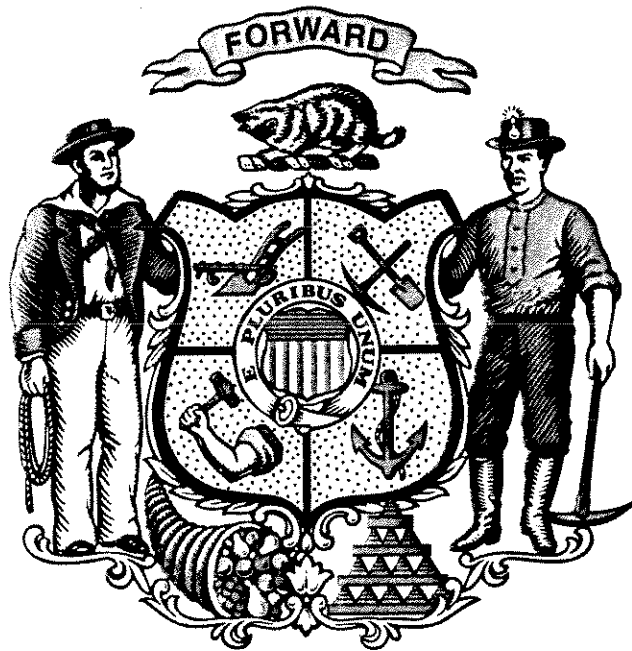
-----Original Message-----

**From:** Don Haver [mailto:pepper3@chorus.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 30, 2003 10:17 PM  
**To:** Steve Freese  
**Subject:** Assembly Bill 47

Hello, Steve,

I just received a message from State Senator Fred Risser regarding his Assembly bill no. 47. I believe that it's a wonderful idea , one that I had when I visited the primaries recently to check on an identical question regarding a person's political identity and my political persuasion and my desire to change my political registry to vote for the person on strictly their apparent qualifications not their political affiliation. As it turned out this time, I was able to vote as I desired without changing my political persuasion, something that I didn't understand at the time, and still don't. So I think that this bill should make it possible for a person to cross party lines in a primary which I think is only fair. I have felt that this law needed to be changed for some time.

Sincerely,  
Don Haver



**Griffiths, Terri**

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**From:** Freese, Steve  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 01, 2003 10:04  
**To:** Griffiths, Terri  
**Subject:** FW: Assembly Bill 47

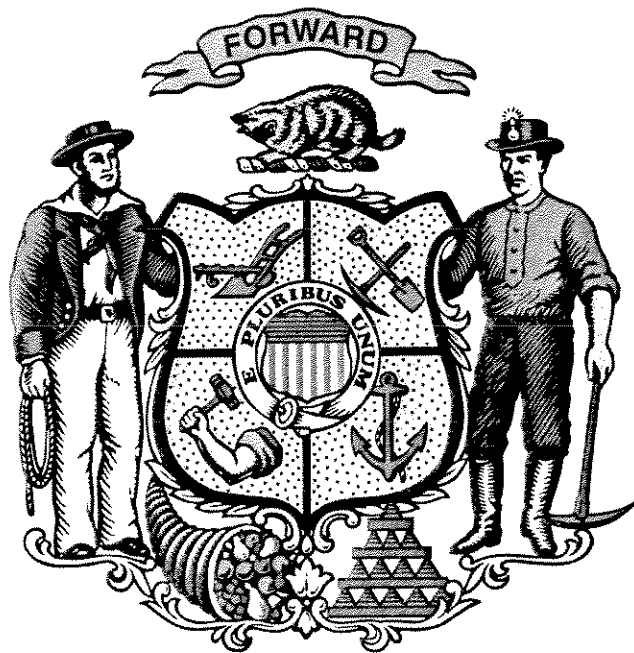
-----Original Message-----

**From:** Joy Jameson [mailto:jajameson@charter.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 01, 2003 10:04 AM  
**To:** Steve.Freese@legis.state.wi.us  
**Subject:** Assembly Bill 47

Dear Representative Freese:

I just wanted to let you know I am for allowing voters to vote for anyone in the primaries, regardless of party. I found myself wishing I could do that in one of the last primaries, as I wanted to vote for who I thought was best, and they happened to be from different parties. Please vote yes for this bill. Thank you,

Joy Jameson  
7321 Countrywood Lane  
Madison, WI 53719



**Griffiths, Terri**

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**From:** Freese, Steve  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 01, 2003 11:47  
**To:** Griffiths, Terri  
**Subject:** FW: Assembly Bill 47

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Simenstpe@aol.com [mailto:Simenstpe@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 01, 2003 11:25 AM  
**To:** Steve.Freese@legis.state.wi.us  
**Subject:** Assembly Bill 47

I am in favor of Assembly Bill 47 to allow primary voters the opportunity to vote for the person of their choice for each office, no matter what the party affiliation.

Ellen Simenstad  
809 Miami Pass  
Madison, WI 53711

