## **Assembly**

# **Record of Committee Proceedings**

## Committee on Corrections and the Courts

## **Assembly Bill 353**

Relating to: restoring the right to vote to certain persons barred from voting as a result of a felony conviction and changing the information required on voter registration forms.

By Representatives Grigsby, Schneider, Parisi, Hilgenberg, Pocan, Young, Pasch, Roys, Black, Turner, Fields, Kessler, Berceau, A. Williams, Toles, Sinicki, Pope-Roberts and Zigmunt; cosponsored by Senators Taylor, Coggs, Miller and Risser, by request of Restore the Vote Wisconsin NOW Coalition.

July 28, 2009 Referred to Committee on Corrections and the Courts.

August 27, 2009 **PUBLIC HEARING HELD** 

Present: (11) Representatives Parisi, Benedict, Seidel,

Kessler, Zigmunt, Pasch, Van Roy, Gundrum,

Kestell, LeMahieu and Brooks.

Absent: (1) Representative Pope-Roberts.

#### Appearances For

- Tamara Grigsby, Madison Representative
- Spencer Coggs, Madison State Senator
- Marlin Schneider, Madison Representative
- Michael Schoenfield, Madison
- Jonathon Flynn, Shorewood Equality Wisconsin
- Andre Brown, Milwaukee
- Victor Wright, Milwaukee
- Marc Herstand, Madison National Association of Social Workers
- Gloria Fulford, Milwaukee
- Clem Richardson, Milwaukee
- Kristin Schroeder, Manitowoc
- Darlene Wellner, Manitowoc League of Women Voters
- Steven Haynes, Milwaukee
- Terry Marshall, Stoughton Wisconsin Council on Community Corrections and the American Probation and Parole Agents
- Esther Heffernan, Madison Sister, MEP
- Ellen Jessen, Madison Citizens for Change
- David Fields, Wauwatosa Project Return

- Shawn Henrickson, Madison Madison Urban Ministry
- Richard Harris, Madison Vision Beyond Bars
- Eugene Smalls, Madison Voice's Beyond Bars
- Todd Winstrom, Madison Disability Rights Wisconsin
- Johnny Ellis, Madison Voice's Beyond Bars
- Joseph Ellwanger, Milwaukee Wisdom/Project Return
- Linda Ketcham Madison Urban Ministry
- Jacqueleen Ivy, Wauwatosa
- Scot Ross, Madison Institute for One Wisconsin
- Jerome Dilliard, Fitchburg Vioce's Beyond Bars
- Jimmy Davison, Fitchburg
- Richard Davis, Madison Wisconsin Institute for the Healing of Racism
- Daniel Girma, Madison
- Terrence Ray, Milwaukee Restore the Vote
- Emilio DeTorre, Grafton ACLU of Wisconsin
- Renee Crawford, Shorewood ACLU of Wisconsin

#### **Appearances Against**

None.

## **Appearances for Information Only**

• Kevin Kennedy, Madison — Government Accountability Board

#### Registrations For

- Lena Taylor, Madison Senator
- Barbara Toles, Madison Representative
- Fred Risser, Madison Senator
- David Smith, Fitchburg Reverend, African American Council of Churches
- Wilson Todd, Madison Madison Urban Ministry
- Stacy Harbaugh, Madison ACLU of Wisconsin
- Beverly Speer, Madison Wisconsin Democracy Campaign
- Michelle Dolbeau, McFarland
- Donna Hammer, Madison Pastor, AACC
- Adam Korbitz, Madison
- Renee Knight, Madison
- Thomas Flint, Madison Reverend
- Laurie Bibo, Madison
- Jill Groblewski, Madison
- Magda Kmiecik, Madison
- Mary Lou Diehl, Madison
- Dennis Bergren, Madison Wisconsin Green Party
- Michael Dawsey, Wauwatosa MICAH

- Paul Malischke, Madison Fair Elections Wisconsin
- Robert Schreiber, Milwaukee Project Return
- Pamela Williams, Milwaukee ACLU
- Judy Miner, Madison Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice
- Perry Duman, Port Washington
- Margaret Kindig, Madison
- Nan Cheney, Madison
- Earnestine Moss, Madison
- Joel Gratz, Madison
- Sarah Quinn, Madison Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice
- Amy Stear, Milwaukee 9 to 5 National Association of Working Women
- Jerry Hancock, Madison Reverend
- Stan Woodard, Madison
- LaVealea Ball-Thomson, Milwaukee
- Teri Woodley, Milwaukee
- Matt Brusky, Milwaukee
- John Walter, Madison Voice's Beyond Bars

## Registrations Against

• J.B. Van Hollen, Madison — Attorney General

## Registrations for Information Only

• None.

## September 17, 2009 **EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD**

Present: (11) Representatives Parisi, Benedict, Seidel, Pope-Roberts, Zigmunt, Pasch, Van Roy, Gundrum,

Kestell, LeMahieu and Brooks.

Absent: (1) Representative Kessler. Rep. Kessler would

have vote aye had he been present.

Moved by Representative Zigmunt, seconded by Representative Pasch that **Assembly Bill 353** be recommended for passage.

Ayes: (6) Representatives Parisi, Benedict, Seidel, Pope-Roberts, Zigmunt and Pasch.

Noes: (5) Representatives Van Roy, Gundrum, Kestell, LeMahieu and Brooks.

Absent: (1) Representative Kessler.

PASSAGE RECOMMENDED, Ayes 6, Noes 5

Lori Whitmore Committee Clerk