

Sample Letter to the Editor in Favor of the Hansen/Vining redistricting reform bills (SB288/AB303)

Dear Editor,

I hope this newspaper, and the citizens of this community, endorse the current bills to ban gerrymandering in Wisconsin, which have bipartisan support.

Sen. Dave Hansen (D-Green Bay) and Rep. Robyn Vining (D-Wauwatosa) have introduced two bills, SB288 and AB303, to give us a fair, independent, and nonpartisan way to do redistricting.

Their bills are co-sponsored by five Republicans: Rep. Joel Kitchens (R-Sturgeon Bay), Rep. Jeffrey Mursau (R-Crivitz), Rep. Todd Novak (R-Dodgeville), Rep. Loren Oldenburg, (R-Viroqua), and Rep. Travis Tranel (R-Cuba City).

This bipartisan support is not surprising. A Marquette Law School poll earlier this year showed that 72 percent of Wisconsinites want to ban gerrymandering, and that includes 63 percent of Republicans and 76 percent of Independents.

The people of Wisconsin are sick and tired of elected officials, from whatever party, rigging the maps to keep themselves in power. We want fair play and a level playing field.

Gerrymandering is wrong, whether Republicans are doing it or Democrats are doing it.

Let's solve this problem once and for all and pass these bills to ban gerrymandering in Wisconsin.