

Government Accountability Board

State of Wisconsin

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G.A.B. Receives Challenges, Approves Candidates for Recall Primaries Scheduled for July 19

MADISON, WI – The Government Accountability Board today received challenges to four of the six candidates running in State Senate recall elections.

Challenges were filed today to nominating petitions for two candidates in State Senate District 12 (Robert H. Lussow and Kim Simac) and two candidates in State Senate District 30 (John Nygren and David Vanderleest). Two separate challenges were filed against Nygren. Challenged candidates have until 8 a.m. Monday to file responses to the challenges, and the Government Accountability Board will meet at 1 p.m. Monday to consider the challenges.

The candidates' current status in each district:

- In **State Senate District 12**, currently represented by Senator Jim Holperin, candidates Robert H. Lussow and Kim Simac have not yet been approved. If both candidates are approved, the July 19 election will be a primary between Lussow and Simac, with the winner to face Senator Holperin on August 16. If only one of the two is approved, July 19 will be the recall election between one of the candidates and the incumbent. If neither candidate is approved, Holperin would be the only candidate on the ballot July 19, and challengers could run as write-in candidates.
- In **State Senate District 22**, currently represented by Senator Robert Wirch, candidates Fred R. Ekornaas and Jonathan Steitz were approved. The winner of the July 19 primary will face Senator Wirch on August 16.
- In **State Senate District 30**, currently represented by Senator Dave Hansen, candidates John Nygren and David Vanderleest have not yet been approved. If both candidates are approved, the July 19 election will be a primary between Nygren and Vanderleest. If only one of the two is approved, July 19 will be the recall election between one of the candidates and the incumbent. If neither candidate is approved, Hansen would be the only candidate on the ballot July 19, and challengers could run as write-in candidates.

There will be no Democratic Party primary in any of the Senate districts. The incumbent in each district is automatically on the ballot, will face the winner of the Republican Primary in the recall election on August 16.

The deadline for the Board to receive any challenges to nomination papers was 4:30 p.m. today. The Board will meet by telephone conference call at 1 p.m. Monday, June 27, to consider the challenges and approve minutes of the previous special meetings on recall petitions. An agenda for the meeting is posted

on the Board's website: <http://gab.wi.gov/about/meetings/2011/june-27-special>. Copies of the challenges will also be posted at that address later tonight.

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The Government Accountability Board (G.A.B.) is responsible for administration and enforcement of campaign finance, elections, ethics and lobbying laws in Wisconsin. The G.A.B. is made up of six non-partisan, former judges and is supported by an agency of non-partisan staff members.