

# Government Accountability Board

## State of Wisconsin

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
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## Recall Status Update: Nine Recall Elections Now Approved

MADISON, WI – At a special meeting Wednesday, the Government Accountability Board voted to certify the sufficiency of recall petitions against Senator Jim Holperin, District 12; Senator Robert Wirch, District 22; and Senator Dave Hansen, District 30.

On Friday, the Board's staff officially certified the petitions and ordered the recall elections for July 19, in accordance with Judge Markson's order of June 3, 2011. Under state law, the recall elections must be held on the sixth Tuesday after the petitions are found to be sufficient. If there is a primary, it will be held on July 19 and the general recall election will be held August 16, 2011.

Last week, recall elections were scheduled for July 12 for these six Senators: Senator Dan Kapanke, District 32; Senator Randy Hopper, District 18; Senator Luther Olsen, District 14; Senator Sheila Harsdorf, District 10; Senator Robert Cowles, District 2; and Senator Alberta Darling, District 8. If there is a primary for any of those contests, it will be held on July 12 and the general recall election will be held August 9, 2011.

“The Board's work to review the sufficiency of all nine recall petitions filed this Spring is now complete,” said Kevin J. Kennedy, director and general counsel of the G.A.B. “Throughout this unprecedented period of recall petition circulation and review, our staff has excelled under tremendous workloads in their efforts to process all of the petitions and challenges fairly and equally. Our Board has approved these recall elections after careful deliberation, balancing Wisconsin residents' constitutional right to recall elected officials with the need to ensure the integrity of the petition process.”

All six Republican Senators have now filed lawsuits contesting the Board's certifications of their recall elections. Whether the litigation will affect the July 12 and August 9 election dates is unknown at this time. Elections Division Administrator Nathaniel E. Robinson said local election officials are being instructed to proceed with planning and conducting the July 12 recall election until further notice.

Information about the recall process, including petitions, challenges and certificates of sufficiency, is available on the Board's website: <http://gab.wi.gov/elections-voting/recall>.

Lists of candidates who register to run in the recall elections will be posted here: <http://gab.wi.gov/elections-voting/results>.

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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.