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Honorable Justices of the Supreme Court  
Wisconsin Supreme Court  
PO Box 1688  
Madison, WI 53701-1688

RE: Rules Petition 20-03, Petition for Proposed Rule to Amend Wis. Stat. § 809.70

Dear Honorable Justices of the Supreme Court:

I oppose this petition for these reasons:

Proposed (4): I do not see any validity in the argument that any legal challenge to redistricting should proceed immediately to the Wisconsin Supreme Court instead of the proven and well-established path through the courts. Redistricting is a crucial part of democracy and the establishment of a record at the lower court level will only enhance transparency and enable the citizens of Wisconsin to understand the evidence in the case and the competing arguments as they move their way through the courts.

Proposed (5): I oppose the proposed limits on who can participate in any hearing on redistricting maps before the Wisconsin Supreme Court. The WILL petition, in Section 5(b), requires only that the political parties be heard by the Court in any dispute over the maps. It does not allow for nonprofit public interest groups, or members of the general public for that matter, that have a longstanding interest in this issue to be heard. Redistricting is not simply a dispute between the parties. The political parties do not represent all citizens of Wisconsin, and limiting participation to only the major parties would disenfranchise large numbers of independent citizens.

The redistricting process needs to be as independent and transparent as possible and avoid partisan influence. The citizens of Wisconsin are counting on its Supreme Court to be fair and impartial.

I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dan Gabrielson

Enclosure