



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Senator Fitzgerald Challenges 4,300 Signatures

Madison, WI ... Today, Sen. Scott Fitzgerald (R-Juneau) will be filing an official challenge to more than 4,300 signatures in the attempted recall election against him. According to Fitzgerald, the organizer of the recall submitted a wide range of irregularities, errors and outright falsehoods to the Government Accountability Board.

“The organizer of this recall promised us that she would be reviewing each and every signature. However, a real review of what she turned in found missing information, hundreds of signers outside of the district, felons involved in the process and at least one completely made-up name – and that’s just in the last 20 days,” Fitzgerald said.

A thorough review of the petitions, which will be formally submitted to the Government Accountability Board today, turned up the following:

- Nearly 100 incorrect or made-up addresses, identified by the United States Postal Service by postcard;
- About 1,500 signatures that were manipulated by circulators;
- More than 250 duplicate signatures;
- Five convicted felons signing the petitions;
- 24 missing signatures;
- Nearly 200 signatures with similar or identical handwriting;
- Six individuals who called us to report their name appearing on the petition without them ever signing; and
- More than 750 signatures found to be outside the 13th Senate District, including Madison, Milwaukee, Racine, Appleton and Beloit. If applied to the new, constitutional map that became law in 2011, nearly 6,000 signatures are outside the district.

In addition to all that, nearly 900 more signatures may have been collected outside of the 60-day period required for circulators.

These errors, and thousands of others, will be formally challenged today.

The cost of the recall election in the 13th Senate District alone is expected to total more than a half-million dollars, and the statewide recall effort is expected to cost taxpayers more than \$17 million.

“The ‘recallers’ are trying to undo the will of more than 44,000 voters in 2010, so the least they can do is follow the rules and be honest with their signatures. I’m happy to run on my record of job creation and balanced budgets, and the people of the 13th district deserve honesty and integrity in the process,” Fitzgerald said.

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