

## How to Contact Your State Legislator

### Options

1. If you know who your state legislators are you can Google:  
“Contact (*your state representative’s or senator’s name*)”  
or “Email (*your state representative’s or senator’s name*)”
2. If you do not know the names of your state representative and senator,  
you can Google: “My (*name of your state*) legislators.

### Web Links for Wisconsin

[Wisconsin State Senate](#) - provides listing of Senators' websites, email addresses for Senators, office and staff directories and calendars.

[Wisconsin State Assembly](#) - provides listing of Representatives' websites, email addresses for representatives, Assembly Office and staff directories and calendars.

[Find Your Legislator](#) - enter your address in the search box, and the interactive map will find your State Senator and Representatives

### Fond du Lac 52<sup>nd</sup> District Representative

#### Representative Jeremy Thiesfeldt

State Capitol Room 223N, PO Box 8953, Madison, WI 53708

(608) 266-3156

Email: [Rep.Thiesfeldt@legis.wisconsin.gov](mailto:Rep.Thiesfeldt@legis.wisconsin.gov)

### Fond du lac/Oshkosh Area Senator

#### Senator Dan Feyen

Wisconsin State Capital

P.O. Box 7882

Madison, WI 53707-7882

Phone: (608) 266-5300

Email: [SEN.FEYEN@LEGIS.WI.GOV](mailto:SEN.FEYEN@LEGIS.WI.GOV)

District Office

140 N. Main St

Fond du Lac, WI 54935

Phone: (920) 952-7001

**203** This bill would make it harder for voters to return their completed, sealed mail ballots by restricting who a voter could choose to return the voter's completed, sealed mail ballot to immediate family members and legal guardians.

**204** This bill would require indefinitely confined people to provide a photo ID, require an application for every election instead of once per year, allow indefinitely confined voters to sign up to receive ballot applications for each election, but not ballots.

**205** This bill would make it a felony for employees of nursing homes to "influence an occupant of the home or facility to apply for or not apply for nans absentee ballot or cast or refrain from casting a ballot or influence an occupant's decision for whom to cast a ballot."

Second, the bill would require the administrator of the facility to provide notice to each relative of an occupant for whom the home or facility has contact information, if the occupant intends to vote by absentee ballot with the special voting deputies.

**206** This bill would require the Wisconsin Election Commission to facilitate the removal of people on the indefinitely confined voters list who joined the list between March 12, 2020 and November 3, 2020. Anyone removed this way could reapply for indefinitely confined status.

Require voters claiming indefinitely confined status to attest to their status, and if they are under 65 years old, the statement of their indefinitely confined.

Create a felony to punish making a false statement to qualify as indefinitely confined.

**209** This bill would limit a voter's options for returning their completed, sealed mail ballot by requiring the ballot to be delivered to the permanent office of the municipal clerk, and authorizing drop box use only if the drop box is attached to the outside of the clerk's permanent office.

**212** Require the clerk to mail the defective ballot back to the voter. Existing law allows the clerk to mail the ballot back if there is time for the voter to correct the defect.

Prohibit the clerks from correcting any defects. Existing law, as interpreted by the Wisconsin Election Commission, allows clerks to fill in missing witness addresses in certain circumstances.

Create new felonies to punish clerks for actions that appear to include helping a voter cure their ballot.

## Legislative Letter Outline

1. Personalize: who are you...
2. Topic: clear, one bill or issue... your action request
3. Story: Data... Affect/impact... Connect to your community... your story...
4. Courteous: appreciation ...

### ***Formal yet personalized - Not “form letter”***

Heading If you have your own letter head, use it

Your name, address-locates you in legislative district, contact info

Date

Legislator

Title, address,

Dear ...*Name*...:

1. Introduce yourself including any relevant connections—don't be too humble!
  - Voting constituent (home)
  - Title ( ie.. Sister), position
  - Memberships, groups or communities you are part of
2. Clearly state the issue or bill you are writing about. (write more letters! If multiple topics)
  - One topic, Bill number if possible
  - What you want the legislator to do
  - How to vote, encourage others
3. Substantiate your reason for writing—connect to you, your groups, your community, yourself
  - Pertinent data: facts, reports,
  - Impact and affects of current status and of future change
  - Story, **story**, **story**.... not lots of stories but powerful one and personalized
  - Anything you know or experienced that others would not?
4. Somewhere in your letter be sure to compliment, express appreciation, thank
5. Closing: Restate specifically what you want legislator to do regarding the specific issue/bill.

Sincerely (or something akin),

Signature

Name, Title

Contact information



## Email Via Your Elected Officials' Websites

- Email your Congressperson about one bill or issue at a time. These messages often get shared with the “Legislative Assistant” for a specific issue area, and we want to make sure they get shared with the correct staff person.
- Identify where you live in the district or state.
- If you have a title, like “Sister,” use it. It’s powerful!
- Mention any groups or communities you’re a part of. There is power in numbers!
- Be courteous and express appreciation for your legislator’s work.
- Cite the bill number or title and your position. Ask them to take a specific action, such as voting “no” or co-sponsoring a bill.
- Mention how the legislation affects your community, ie., *Cincinnati has the fourth highest rate of childhood poverty in the country* or *There are 11 Federally Qualified Healthcare Centers in our district.*
- Share your personal story about how the legislation affects you.
- Restate your ask.

**TIP:** Personalized emails often receive a response from a congressional staff-person, explaining why your Congressperson agrees or disagrees with the viewpoint you shared. Please forward NETWORK your responses—it helps our lobbyists gain insight into where that person stands on an issue! You can email those responses to [info@networklobby.org](mailto:info@networklobby.org).

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**NOTE:**

*This can be easily modified for personal letter writing, electronic or non-electronic.*

**Sample Letter to Wisconsin Legislature # 1**

April, 2021

Dear --

My name is Pat -----, and I am a resident of Oshkosh, Wisconsin. I have been a member of Pax Christi USA, a Catholic justice and peace organization, since 1989. I have studied issues of peace and acted on issues of national and global justice.

I am also associated with the Sisters of Saint Agnes of Fond du lac, and a member of their Justice, Peace, and Integrity Committee. Presently this committee is studying voting laws, the recent bills on changing Wisconsin's voting laws introduced in the senate, and their impact on the voters of this state.

I am writing to you in regards SB 211. In this bill citizens who are indefinitely confined need to have an identification card to receive an absentee ballot. This requirement can be very difficult for the elderly, disabled, those who are isolated, lack transportation, and lack access to technical devices, such as a computer, to fulfill.

A solution to this problem that you may want to take under consideration is to create a permanent list of voters who always want to or need to vote absentee, rather than make them reapply for a ballot. This would save time for the voter and save time and costs for this voting process.

In the end, "We need to acknowledge, citing national security assessments, that the 2020 contest was among the most secure ever", as noted by Wisconsin Watch.

In closing, I would like to add that those who are disabled and living in poverty have difficulty getting to the polls. We need to encourage people who may not be able to meet all the requirements to vote, rather than making the process more difficult. Please remove the requirement for an identification card for those indefinitely confined from SB 211.

Thank you for taking the time to read this request and take it under consideration.

This is a sample letter to guide your writing. Please edit letter as needed.  
Remember that a personalized letter, not a form-letter, may have more impact.

**Sample Letter to Wisconsin Legislature # 2**

April, 2021

Dear—

My name is Pat ----- and I am a resident of Oshkosh, Wisconsin. I have been a member of Pax Christi USA, a Catholic Justice and Peace organization since 1989. I have studied the issues of peace and have taken actions to promote justice nationally and globally.

I am writing to you in regard to SR Bill 206. In this bill the elector who is indefinitely confined and is seeking an automatic absentee ballot each year is required to make a statement under oath or sign an additional form (witnessed by the elector's primary care provider) to affirm age or disability issues. This requirement will be an added cost for the elector as the insurance will not likely cover this visit and will be added stress for the elector and possibly other family members who may have to assist the elector with transportation to the physician's office. It will also add another layer of paperwork and stress for our health care system which at this time is in the midst of a global pandemic. I worked in the health care system for 43 plus years and appreciate the time given to unnecessary paperwork instead of being at the bedside of my patients.

A solution for this problem, as noted by Wisconsin Watch, would be "to establish a permanent list of voters who want to always vote absentee, rather than making a voter repeatedly reapply. This would cut the processing time and costs for the elector, municipal clerks, and our health care system."

In the end, "We need to acknowledge, citing national security assessments, that the 2020 contest was among the most secure ever" as noted by Wisconsin Watch.

We need to make the voting process transparent and accessible to each and every voter in Wisconsin, especially those who have the most difficulty securing a ballot.

Please remove the requirement of statements under oath or witnessed forms by a health care provider from SR Bill 206.

Sincerely,

This is a sample letter to guide your writing. Please edit letter as needed.  
Remember that a personalized letter, not a form-letter, may have more impact.

**Sample Letter to Wisconsin Legislature # 3**

April, 2021

Dear— — —

My name is Pat -----, and I am a resident of Oshkosh, Wisconsin. I have been a member of Pax Christi USA, a Catholic justice and peace organization since 1989. I have studied issues of peace and acted on issues of national and global justice.

I am also associated with the Sisters of Saint Agnes of Fond du lac, and a member of their Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation Committee. Presently this committee is studying voting laws, the recent bills, on changing Wisconsin's voting laws introduced into the senate and their impact on the voters of this state.

I am writing to you in regard to RS Bill 203 which prohibits a person from obtaining a marked absentee ballot from an elector to deliver it to the municipal clerk or polling place unless the person obtaining the ballot is a member of the voter's immediate family or the voters legal guardian. A person who violates this prohibition would be guilty of a class one felony!

This legislation will impact me personally as a widow living alone and having only one family of in-laws living in Oshkosh. If I were to suddenly become disabled or incapable of delivering my own vote and my in-laws were unavailable to assist me, my right to vote would be eliminated.

A solution to this problem that you may want to take under consideration is to allow the elector who is unable to deliver their absentee ballot to designate in writing one person who is a registered voter to deliver the ballot. As noted in previous legislation, the voter may not designate a candidate on the ballot or compensate the person to deliver the ballot.

We can work together and create a just and equitable voting process which will ensure the rights of every citizen to vote for the candidate of their choice.

Please remove the requirement for a family member or a legal guardian to deliver an absentee ballot for an elector from SB 203.

Thank you for taking the time to review this request and take it under consideration.

This is a sample letter to guide your writing. Please edit letter as needed.  
Remember that a personalized letter, not a form-letter, may have more impact.

**Sample Letter to Wisconsin Legislature #4**

April, 2021

My name is Pat -----, and I am a resident of Oshkosh, Wisconsin. I have been a member of Pax Christi USA, a Catholic justice and peace organization since 1989. I have studied issues of peace and acted on issues of national and global justice.

I am also associated with the Sisters of Saint Agnes of Fond du lac, and a member of their Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation Committee. Presently this committee is studying national and state voting laws and their impact on the voters of this state.

I am writing to you to ask you to review and support the bipartisan rank choice voting bill introduced last February in the state legislature. In the proposed bill primary elections would be nonpartisan and the top five vote getters would advance to the general election. In the general election voters would rank their choices from first to fifth. If one candidate gets a majority of first place votes, the election is over. If no one has a majority of first place votes there is an instant runoff where the lowest vote getter is eliminated, and their supporters are shifted to the voters second choice candidate. The votes are counted again, and the process continues until someone reaches a majority of the votes.

The reason I support this bill is because our current partisan primary encourages polarization and gridlock. We need an election process which encourages our legislatures to work together, compromise, and explore new ideas for our beautiful state and its citizens.

Please join me in supporting the "Rank Choice Voting" bill for the state of Wisconsin.

Thank you for your time in reviewing this request and the service you are providing to our state.

This is a sample letter to guide your writing. Please edit letter as needed.  
Remember that a personalized letter, not a form-letter, may have more impact.