

Facts about Spring WSSC Election

Robin Vos and Assembly Republicans now contemplate impeachment of Justice Protasiewicz. Republicans, including Assembly Speaker Robin Vos, allege Protasiewicz has prejudged redistricting cases pending before the Supreme Court because of comments she made during her campaign. They also say she can't fairly hear the cases because she took nearly \$10 million in campaign donations from the Wisconsin Democratic Party, which did not file the lawsuits but has long pushed for new maps.

State totals from Spring 2023:

Janet Protasiewicz 1,021,822 (55.4%)
Dan Kelly 816,391 (44.2%)
Difference: 205,431 (11.2%)

Juneau County Totals:

Janet Protasiewicz 3051 (42.8%)
Dan Kelly 4052 (56.9%)
Difference: 1001 (14.1%)

Current State Assembly makeup:

Republican: 64 (29 member advantage of 99 total seats)
Democrat: 35 (needing 15 members to avoid 50 votes for impeachment)

Current State Senate makeup:

Republican: 22 (A veto-proof majority and 2/3 majority needed for impeachment)
Democrat: 11

Wisconsin Judicial Commission:

- investigates and prosecutes allegations of misconduct or disability on the part of Wisconsin judges
- The nine-member commission consists of five members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate and four members appointed by the Supreme Court.
- On September 5, 2023, Justice Protasiewicz released a letter from the state judiciary disciplinary panel notifying her that several complaints alleging she violated the judicial code of ethics for comments she made during the campaign were rejected. It was a setback to Republicans who argued those remarks could warrant impeachment.
- Protasiewicz never promised to rule one way or another on redistricting or abortion cases.
- Democrats heavily backed her campaign, during which Protasiewicz criticized Republican-drawn electoral maps and spoke in favor of abortion rights.
- The Wisconsin Democratic Party is not a party to the law suit being brought to the WSSC regarding manipulated non-representative districts in the state.
- If the Assembly impeaches her, Protasiewicz would be barred from any duties as a justice until the Senate acted. That could effectively stop her from voting on redistricting without removing her from office and creating a vacancy that Democratic Gov. Tony Evers would fill.