

Battle over district lines resumes

Evers, lawmakers lobby justices after federal ruling

Associated Press

MADISON

Wisconsin's Democratic governor told the state Supreme Court on Thursday that it should allow him to submit additional evidence defending his legislative district boundary map that the U.S. Supreme Court rejected, arguing it is still better than the one submitted by the Republican Legislature.

The Legislature, meanwhile, responded by telling the court it should ignore Gov. Tony Evers and instead adopt the Republican-drawn map.

The court has yet to say how it will proceed after the U.S. Supreme Court ruling Wednesday left Wisconsin without new legislative boundary lines just three weeks before candidates were to start circulating nominating papers to get on the ballot.

Evers and the Legislature, in separate letters, urged the state Supreme

Court to adopt their maps as it considers what to do for a second time.

Evers also asked the Wisconsin Supreme Court, if it doesn't adopt his original map, to consider making a change to reduce the number of Black-majority Assembly districts from seven to six. The Legislature's map had five Black-majority districts in Milwaukee.

The U.S. Supreme Court said in its ruling Wednesday that the state Supreme Court failed to consider whether a "race-neutral alternative that did not add a seventh majority-black district would deny black voters equal political opportunity."

The nation's high court also said the state Supreme Court was free to take additional evidence if it reconsiders Evers' map, and that is what Evers asked the court to do Thursday. He wants the state court to allow for the submission of additional evidence until April 1.

"No other path is tenable, as the preexisting maps are indisputably unconstitutional statewide, and this Court already observed that the Legislature's proposal

posed problems under the (Voting Rights Act)," Assistant Wisconsin Attorney General Anthony Russo-manno wrote on behalf of Evers.

Kevin St. John, the attorney for Republican lawmakers, said in his letter that Evers already had a chance to make an argument for his maps and he "should not get a second chance now."

The court was expected to act quickly, given that candidates for the Legislature can begin circulating nomination papers April 15 to be on the ballot this fall.

Until the court adopts new maps, there are no maps in place for the fall legislative elections, said Riley Vetterkind, spokesman for the Wisconsin Elections Commission.

That means a candidate runs the risk of gathering signatures for his candidacy from voters who might not end up living in the district they are running for, making them invalid.

Evers' attorney cautioned that the need for the court to act quickly should be balanced against the need to adopt legal maps without inviting more lawsuits.

Study: Housing values up sharply

Rate of increase fastest in about 15 years, it says

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE

A new study shows Wisconsin's housing market is strong with the total value of homes and other property sold in 2021 increasing at the fastest rate in about 15 years.

The Wisconsin Policy Forum study said revenue from fees on real estate sales totaled more than \$132 million during the fiscal year ending June

30. That compares with nearly \$97 million in revenue for the prior fiscal year.

The nonpartisan civic group's report said the 2021 real estate market was driven by historically low mortgage rates.

The Wisconsin Realtors Association said other factors include strong demand from millennials reaching ages in which people often buy homes, along with a limited supply of homes, The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported.

The median value of single-family residential

properties transferred in Wisconsin increased from \$126,500 in 2016 to \$170,000 in 2021, an increase of about 34%.

More than half the increase came in 2020 and 2021, with statewide increases of 7.7% and 7%, respectively, according to the forum.

"While these increases were broadly shared, they were particularly robust and sustained in many of the state's large urban counties," the report said.

That includes Milwaukee, Dane, Brown, Outagamie, Winnebago, Kenosha and Rock counties.

Lawyer: Trying to decertify Biden win 'pointless'

Associated Press

MADISON

An attorney for the lead investigator hired by Wisconsin Republicans to look into the 2020 election told lawmakers Thursday that the election is "done and over" and attempting to decertify President Joe Biden's win is "pointless."


Attorney James Bopp's client, former Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Michael Gableman, earlier this month strongly suggested the Legislature look at decertifying the 2020 election won

by Biden.

But Bopp on Thursday told the same Assembly elections committee where Gableman presented his report that decertification was impossible. That is the same thing that nonpartisan attorneys, the leader of the conservative law firm the Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty, GOP legislative leaders and others have all said.

"The only way to remove President Biden is by his death, resignation, impeachment or disability under the 25th Amendment," Bopp said.


SOUTH BELOIT LOCATION
834 GARDNER STREET
SOUTH BELOIT, IL 61080
815-389-4242




NOMINATE US TODAY!

JANESVILLE LOCATION
3280 SOUTH HWY 51
JANESVILLE, WI 53546
608-741-9090


WWW.BANDBPETS.COM




Boarding • Supplies • Grooming • Day Care



BEST OF STATELINE 2018 WINNER




BEST OF STATELINE 2019 WINNER




BEST OF STATELINE 2020 WINNER


OVER 30 YEARS
MAKING PETS HAPPY, HEALTHY & BEAUTIFUL




GROOMING



SUPPLIES




BOARDING



DAYCARE

25% OFF


Grooming For New Clients



Not Valid on Saturdays.
Expires 12/31/22


\$10.00 OFF

Grooming For Existing Clients.



Not Valid on Saturdays.
Expires 12/31/22

Free Upgrade To Nail Grind With Groom.



Not Valid on Saturdays.
Expires 12/31/22

Just Hanging in tonight.

Feeling good in my surroundings!



Cabinets.
A place for everything.



Fireplace Built-Ins



Inviting Openings



Eye Candy Fixtures

When you're ready, we'll be here.



Cabinet Country Ltd.

1515 Newport Ave. | Janesville | 608.756.5196

www.cabinetcountryltd.com

Hours: M•W•F 8-5 | T•Th 8-6 | Saturday by appointment






<p>The Gazette 1 S. Parker Drive P.O. Box 5001 Janesville, WI 53547</p> <p>Orestes Baez Regional President and Publisher obaez@gazettextra.com</p> <p>Customer Service Hours Monday - Thursday • 6am - 2pm Friday • 7am - 2pm (608) 741-6650 circulation@gazettextra.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Subscribe</p> <p>(608) 741-6650 or (800) 362-6712 www.OrderGazette.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Monthly Subscription Rates</p> <p>5-Day Print + Online: \$24.50 Wed. & Fri. Print + Online: \$14.89 Friday Print + Online: \$14.89 Online Only: \$14.89</p> <p>Above AUTOPAY rates reflect best value.</p> <p>Certain editions of the Gazette will be considered premium day editions and incur additional charges. These additional charges will change the paid-through date of your subscription.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Department Directory</p> <p>www.GazetteXtra.com/contactus</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Audience & Distribution</p> <p>Jennifer Williams Customer Support Supervisor jwilliams@gazettextra.com</p> <p>Shawn Holmes SoWI Distribution Manager sholmes@gazettextra.com</p> <p>Victoria Boggs Regional Audience Marketing Manager vboggs@gazettextra.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Newsroom</p> <p>Jim Ferolie, Executive Regional Editor jferolie@adamspg.com</p> <p>Tim Seeman, Night Editor tseeman@gazettextra.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Advertising</p> <p>Steve Lauber Director of Advertising Sales slauber@gazettextra.com</p> <p>Classified Advertising (608) 741-6651</p>
---	---	---	--

The Gazette Local Edition

USPC 272-880 | ISSN 8096
Periodical Postage Paid at Janesville, WI
Published daily except New Years Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas by Adams Publishing Group.
1 S. Parker Dr., P. O. Box 5001
Janesville, WI 53547
www.GazetteXtra.com
The Associated Press is entitled to exclusive use for publication of local news in this newspaper.
Postmaster: Send address changes to The Gazette, 1 S. Parker Dr., P. O. Box 5001, Janesville, WI 53547.
This newspaper is printed in part on recycled paper and is recyclable.