



## Washington State Legislature

July 27, 2023

Secretary of State Steve Hobbs  
Legislative Building  
416 Sid Snyder Avenue SW  
Olympia, WA 98501

Attorney General Bob Ferguson  
1125 Washington Street SE  
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Secretary Hobbs and Attorney General Ferguson:

We write with great concern about a potential threat to the integrity of the democratic process here in Washington – specifically, activities to hinder Washington citizens attempting to sign referenda petitions.

Brandi Kruse, a well-known and highly respected political reporter, recently wrote to Secretary Hobbs to express her concern about these reported actions. In her letter, she details several incidents that appear to be illegal as per RCW 29A.84.250(4), which states:

“Every person is guilty of a gross misdemeanor who... (4) Interferes with or attempts to interfere with the right of any voter to sign or not to sign an initiative or referendum petition or with the right to vote for or against an initiative or referendum measure by threats, intimidation, or any other corrupt means or practice.”

As the Secretary of State’s Office has the duty to protect the sanctity of our elections, and it is the prime responsibility of the Attorney General’s Office to defend state law, we request that you investigate those who are reportedly involved in organizing and carrying out the incidents described by Ms. Kruse.

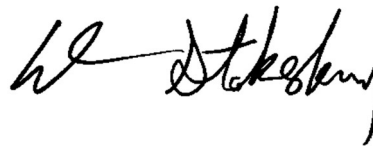
This letter was prepared using state resources. It in no way endorses or encourages any particular referenda. Its sole purpose is to encourage a thorough and nonpartisan investigation of potentially illegal activity to interfere with the people's power of referendum through harassment and intimidation.

Washington has a proud history of participatory democracy, and we are deeply concerned about threats to our state's democratic process – especially when those threats appear to be based on ideology or partisanship. We hope you will give this matter the serious consideration it deserves.

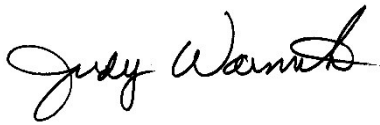
Respectfully,



Senator John Braun  
Senate Republican Leader  
LD 20



Representative Drew Stokesbary  
House Republican Leader  
LD 31



Senator Judy Warnick  
LD 13



Rep. Paul Harris  
LD 17



Senator Shelly Short  
LD 7



Rep. Jacquelin Maycumber  
LD 7



Senator Keith Wagoner  
LD 39



Rep. Dan Griffey  
LD 35



Senator Chris Gildon  
LD 25



Rep. Mike Steele  
LD 12



Senator Ron Muzzall  
LD 10

Rep. Kelly Chambers  
LD 25

Rep. Eric Robertson  
LD 31

Senator Nikki Torres  
LD 15

Rep. Peter Abbarno  
LD 20

Rep. Chris Corry  
LD 14

Senator Perry Dozier  
LD 16

Rep. Suzanne Schmidt  
LD 4

Senator Matt Boehnke  
LD 8

Rep. Andrew Barkis  
LD 2

Rep. Stephanie Barnard  
LD 8

Senator Phil Fortunato  
LD 31

Rep. Bruce Chandler  
LD 15

Rep. Leonard Christian  
LD 4

Rep. Michelle Caldier  
LD 26

Rep. Travis Couture  
LD 35

Rep. Tom Dent  
LD 13

Senator Jeff Holy  
LD 6

Rep. Carolyn Eslick  
LD 39

Rep Keith Goehner  
LD 12

Senator Drew MacEwen  
LD 35

Rep. Jenny Graham  
LD 6

Rep. Mary Dye  
LD 9

Senator Mike Padden  
LD 4

Rep. Spencer Hutchins  
LD 26

Rep. Cyndy Jacobsen  
LD 25

Senator Ann Rivers  
LD 18

Rep. Mark Klicker  
LD 16

Rep. Joel Kretz  
LD 7

Rep. Sam Low  
LD 39

Senator Mark Schoesler  
LD 9

Rep Stephanie McClintock  
LD 18

Rep. Joel McEntire  
LD 19

Rep. Gina Mosbrucker  
LD 14

Senator Jeff Wilson  
LD 19

Rep. Ed Orcutt  
LD 20

Rep. Bryan Sandlin  
LD 15

Rep. Joe Schmick  
LD 9

Rep. Alex Ybarra  
LD 13

Senator Curtis King  
LD 14



Senator Lynda Wilson  
LD 17



Rep. Mike Volz  
LD 6



Rep. Jim Walsh  
LD 19



Rep. Kevin Waters  
LD 17



Rep. Skyler Rude  
LD 16



Senator Jim McCune  
LD 2

Cc: James Troyer, Chief of Staff – Senate Republican Caucus  
Lisa Fenton, Chief of Staff – House Republican Caucus