

Sending a Message to Rep. Pridemore About First Amendment Rights

For immediate release: Thursday, April 17, 2008

Today, constituents of Representative Don Pridemore will be receiving phone calls informing them that Rep. Pridemore is considering drafting legislation that would infringe on the ability of Wisconsin Right to Life to provide them with candidate information.

"Last year, Wisconsin Right to Life won an historic First Amendment case when the U.S. Supreme Court affirmed our right to talk about candidates without being sent to prison," said Susan Armacost, Legislative Director of Wisconsin Right to Life. "Now, Representative Pridemore is seriously considering drafting legislation that could prevent Wisconsin Right to Life and other citizen organizations from disseminating information about state candidates."

"We had clearly explained to Rep. Pridemore that the concepts he is considering for inclusion in legislation are an affront to the First Amendment, to citizen organizations and to the citizens of Wisconsin", said Armacost. "Unfortunately, he seems determined to proceed and we now have no choice but to defend our right to freely engage in political discourse at election time, and at any other time."

Among the concepts Pridemore is considering is requiring citizen organizations to provide the State with personal information about their donors even when the citizen organization is simply disseminating objective information about the voting records of political candidates.

Wisconsin Right to Life

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