

Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty: Statement from Rick Esenberg, president & general counsel

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Statement from Rick Esenberg, President & General Counsel, WILL:

“Governor Evers’ proposal to send a ballot in the mail to every registered voter might make sense if the Wisconsin Elections Commission kept the voter rolls clean and up to date, but we know that it does not. We know that commissioners have purposely left over 200,000 names on the rolls of voters who have moved from the addresses in question. Mailing ballots to those addresses would put those 200,000 ballots in the hands of individuals not entitled to them.

“Further, Governor Evers’ proposal to send a ballot in the mail to every registered voter might make sense if we were sure that the municipal clerks would require that each ballot be returned with a valid voter ID. But we know that the Dane County Clerk and the Milwaukee County Clerk are trying to evade the voter ID requirement and have been told by a state agency that their efforts are illegal.

“We cannot do things that might be reasonable in other contexts when the officials who are supposed to ensure fair elections refuse to do their duty, and evade the law. Given the circumstances under which Wisconsin elections are being run, we need to take every precaution to ensure a fair election and that does not leave room for Governor Evers’ current proposal.”