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Statement on Wisconsin Supreme Court Rulings on Voter ID

MADISON: The League of Women Voters of Wisconsin makes the following statement on the release of the Wisconsin Supreme Court decisions on the Wisconsin voter photo ID law.

"We are disappointed that a majority of Wisconsin Supreme Court justices did not agree with the League of Women Voters or the growing numbers of federal judges who have recently found that strict voter ID laws are more likely to prevent thousands of qualified citizens from voting than to deter the extremely small number of potential illegal votes," said Andrea Kaminski, executive director of the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin.

"We are proud to have won an early injunction in the case, helping ensure that no eligible voter was disenfranchised by the law through seven elections, including the 2012 Presidential election. During that time, our colleagues in other organizations gathered critical evidence and built a strong record demonstrating the burden the law places on qualified voters, which led to a federal injunction of national significance."

The League stresses that the voter ID law is still blocked by a federal court injunction. Federal Judge Adelman got it right when he wrote that there is no evidence of in-person voter impersonation having occurred in Wisconsin, and a person would have to be "insane" to attempt it. Yet an estimated 300,000 currently registered Wisconsin citizens do not possess one of the short list of acceptable IDs allowed by the Wisconsin voter ID law.

"Rather than blocking thousands of eligible citizens from voting, we should be working to ensure that our elections are free, fair and accessible to all eligible Wisconsin voters," Kaminski said.

The League of Women Voters of Wisconsin is a nonpartisan organization that advocates for informed and active participation in government. There are 17 local Leagues in Wisconsin. The League is a proud member of Community Shares of Wisconsin.