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**MILELE A. COGGS**

6th District Alderwoman

## Voter ID Law injunction is appropriate

### Statement of Alderwoman Milele A. Cogg July 19, 2012

I have consistently spoken out against the state's "Voter ID" law as being a pricey solution in search of a problem, and I wholeheartedly applaud the ruling Tuesday by Dane County Circuit Judge David Flanagan barring enforcement of the photo identification requirements of the law. This means that the photo identification requirement will NOT be in place during the Presidential election this November.

The law's requirement that individuals obtain an acceptable form of photo identification, Judge Flanagan wrote, imposes a "substantial burden" upon a significant proportion of state residents who are registered or eligible to vote because of the cost and difficulty of obtaining documents needed to apply for a state photo ID. That creates a "substantial impairment" to the right to vote guaranteed by the Wisconsin Constitution, he wrote.

I am glad that Judge Flanagan pointed out the unreasonable burden that the photo identification requirement would pose for a large number of our citizens, and I am also very thankful that the NAACP and Voces de la Frontera sued to stop the law in order to protect the hard-earned right to vote that we cherish.

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