

Episode 57DFV March 26 2025 Louisiana March 29 2025 vote on special LA Supreme Court elections

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One Louisiana **RAWSEP View** The question of Whether to allow State Supreme Court justice partisan elections is on the Ballot in Louisiana on March 29 2025 If YES wins there would be a change to allow special partisan elections for the Louisiana Supreme Court **Louisiana Democrats would like voters to vote NO on this amendment** Would partisan special elections for the Louisiana Supreme Court be like non partisan elections for Wisconsin Supreme Court on April 1 2025? A Louisiana special election for the Louisiana Supreme Court would be **partisan** but in some cases the special elections could be held on Saturdays in Louisiana which is not allowed in Wisconsin **RAWSEP View** See the map to see how all 50 states select their state Supreme Court Justices! How could a Louisiana partisan special election for the Louisiana Supreme Court be different from the non partisan election for the Wisconsin Supreme Court on April 1 2025? It could be a **special election called as early as possible which could be at a time that will probably be inconvenient or overlooked by many Louisiana voters and so voter turnout might be low** What is the exact meaning and what are the implications of the ballot measure allowing special elections of Supreme Court justices in Louisiana? **Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates a 501c3 nonprofit organization** Louisiana Ballot Amendment Ballotpedia March 25 2025 Amendment 4 Amendment 4 would require judicial vacancies to be filled in a special election at the earliest available date under state law If the vacancy occurs within 12 months of the next gubernatorial or congressional election the special election would coincide with that election This replaces the current law requiring a special election within 12 months of the vacancy The Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana Voter Guide cited arguments in support of the amendment Amending the constitution is a better approach than tweaking the closed primary law If the law is adjusted instead to allow the governor to call a special election that does not coincide with the regular election calendar Louisiana could be forced to spend additional dollars to comply with the constitutional mandate to elect a new judge within a year **Say No! to Them All RAWSEP View is that the opposition called Say No! to Them All seems to be Louisiana Democrats Say No! to Them All said in opposition The move in Amendment 4 to change the election dates for judges is another ploy to make it easier for Baton Rouge politicians to get their friends elected when few voters are paying attention** To learn more about these amendments have a look at our recent episodes of Ballotpedia Explains We normally think of election days as events that happen in November But the **election calendar particularly for state and local issues is far more complex with elections occurring at just about any time of year Including weekends** Which is exactly what is happening this coming **Saturday** March 29 from 7 am to 8 pm in Louisiana There voters will decide on four constitutional amendments that address tax policy judicial procedures and juvenile justice laws A two thirds vote in each legislative chamber was required to put the amendments on the ballot All four of the amendments were passed with all Republican legislators in favor while **most Democrats opposed them**

2 Wisconsin A Wind Power debate in Wisconsin A Major Wisconsin wind power project generates controversy [RAWSEP View](#) Since Trump became President again in 2025 wind power has fallen out of favor along political lines [RAWSEP Excerpt from the article below](#) Shortly after retaking office President Donald Trump issued an executive order that paused the leasing of offshore wind projects and halted the approval of any wind developments on federal land [RAWSEP overview](#) Travis Tranel Republican Wisconsin State Assembly Representative of Cuba City and Howard Marklein Republican Wisconsin State Senator from District 17 object to any wind power station greater than 15 megawatts [RAWSEP Top Excerpt from the article below](#) Along with Sen Howard Marklein Republican of Spring Green Tranel has introduced legislation that would require local approval for state regulators to allow a wind or solar project of greater than 15 megawatts to proceed [RAWSEP View number 1](#) The objections to wind power on the grounds of damage to human health are not supported by scientific facts or medical facts Noise from wind turbines does not cause cancer as President Trump has repeatedly argued Concerns about health problems such as nausea tinnitus and headaches have earned the moniker wind turbine syndrome There is little scientific evidence that noise generated by wind turbines causes these problems though there is limited evidence that they can cause sleep disturbance Researchers believe many of these symptoms come from a heightened state of annoyance caused by the wind turbines rather than the machinery itself [RAWSEP View number 2](#) The objections to wind power on the grounds of property value reduction do not hold water [RAWSEP 2nd Top Excerpt from the article below](#) Some said they worry the project would reduce their property values Research has shown home values dip immediately after a project is announced but eventually rebound [RAWSEP 3rd top Excerpt from the article below](#) Scientists agree turbine blades kill birds and bats though scientists argue that far more birds and bats are killed by other causes such as domestic cats or buildings [RAWSEP View](#) The nonprofit Clean Energy argues that we are in an energy crisis and both wind and solar energy are cheap and clean Rather than real concern about non-existent dangers to health and property values it could very well be that Trump and Trump allies in Wisconsin are arguing against clean cheap wind and solar energy because using those clean cheap sources of energy takes money making air-polluting business away from fossil fuel and solid fuel such as wood fuel energy power plant interests [RAWSEP View of which local governments in Wisconsin have also objected to wind energy production](#) The Iowa Grant School Board passed a resolution in December requesting the project be moved away from one of the districts schools in Mifflin State law requires wind turbines be sited at least 1250 feet or a quarter mile away from schools Ross Leix the school board president said some turbines were set to be 0.4 miles from the school which is allowed by the law In Clifton local officials passed an ordinance that smaller scale wind projects cannot have turbines taller than 500 feet [RAWSEP View](#) Advocates for wind and solar energy also say it is reliable and cost-effective Could local governments be influenced by big fossil fuel companies despite wind and solar being a boon for local farmers? [Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates a 501c3 nonprofit organization](#) Capital Times March 26 2025 In 2018 when developers wanted to build the largest solar farm in Wisconsin partly on his land a farmer took their offer Now his property is part of another massive renewable energy project proposed for southwest Wisconsin If approved by state regulators the Badger Hollow project would be the first major new wind farm in the state in over a decade The farmer whose land could be used for a transmission line carrying power generated by the turbines said farmers recognize the project as an opportunity The Badger Hollow project would build as many as 19 wind turbines over five towns in

western Iowa County and eastern Grant County about an hour west of Madison. Developers say the project would provide 118 megawatts of power to customers in the Madison and Milwaukee areas when completed by 2027. Advocates for clean energy say wind generation is more reliable and cost effective than other types of power but some people who would live near the turbines are contesting the proposed development. Concerns range from fears about health hazards to flickering lights. In Wisconsin the Public Service Commission regulates energy production in the state. One local critic wrote "The developer Invenergy can destroy the environment!" The developer has pointed to the scores of landowners who have signed up to participate in the project as well as the economic impact for the region. Wind is part of a state carbon free goal. Federal data shows there are 18 wind projects already operating in Wisconsin with many of the turbines concentrated in the southwest and the south central part of the state. Those projects play a role in keeping the lights on across the entire state. In 2022, 19% of Wisconsin electricity was derived from wind according to a report from the Public Service Commission. Wind generation increased over 20 fold since 2015 and is one of the few types of energy projected to grow. Governor Tony Evers has set a goal for achieving carbon free electricity consumption in Wisconsin by 2050. The rural energy campaign manager for Clean Wisconsin said large wind and solar projects along with rooftop solar and other renewable energy efforts are important in achieving that target. Proponents of renewable energy have pointed to neighboring Iowa which generates over half of its electricity from wind, the highest of any state in the country. Wind power however has become increasingly political. Invenergy has said the project will generate nearly \$600,000 in property tax revenue for county and local governments each year. In addition, developers must pay farmers to lease the land they use for solar panels or wind turbines. This comes out to \$5,000 per megawatt per year for a landowner and Invenergy estimates those payments could run into the millions of dollars over the life of the project. But more recent projects such as the Badger Hollow Solar Farm, the largest in the state and developed by Invenergy, have soured things. Wisconsin law gives the final say on projects of 100 megawatts or more such as Badger Hollow to the Public Service Commission (PSC). Local officials can weigh in on what they think the commission, the commission or PSC has at least eight factors it must consider when evaluating whether to approve or deny a renewable energy project. The factors include whether the site being considered is in the public interest and fits development planning in the area, if there are major environmental impacts from the project and whether it satisfies the reasonable needs of the public for an adequate supply of electric energy. To state Rep. Travis Tranel, Republican of Cuba City, restrictions on local input enacted by Democratic lawmakers in 2009 did not take into account the large scope of many of the projects proposed in Wisconsin over a decade later. Public Service Commission members are appointed by the Wisconsin governor and confirmed by the state Senate to serve six year terms. All three members of the current commission were appointed by Evers, a Democrat. A representative of Clean Wisconsin said "We are in an energy crisis. And slowing down two of the cheapest forms of energy from being produced here in Wisconsin would not seem to do anything to help us address concerns about energy."

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3B World Global PM2.5 Inequality A New Framework for Air Pollution and Ecology Newswise Air pollution particularly Particulate Matter PM2.5 is a leading cause of premature deaths worldwide contributing to millions of

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Global Health wood at a makeshift kitchen in a shelter for displaced people in smoke she inhaled while cooking Every day billions of people around

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crisis Competitive Enterprise Institute Heat pumps are the electric vehicles of home appliances Both are grossly overhyped by environmental activists for their claimed climate benefits and 4P United States US National Interagency Fire Center Wildfire Update as of March 21 Forest Economic Advisors LLC burned 1625566 acres The 10 year average 2015–24 for the same time period is 7517 wildfires and 5417953 acres burned FEA compiles the Wood

5 Arkansas Northwest Arkansas Democrat Gazette A light haze of wood smoke has hung over Little Rock the past day or Fires are reported burning in nearly every county in the state

6A California United States Heat Pumps California Has A Plan To Install 6 Million Heat Pumps By 2030

CleanTechnica Heat pumps are similar to electric cars in many respects They are new technology and very few people really understand how they work The name itself 6B California United States Heat

Pumps California unveils first state plan to unleash heat pumps Canary Media Last Monday California paused its \$290 million home energy rebate program part of an \$88 billion federally funded initiative for heat pumps and 6C California and Texas AGAINST CLEAN ENERGY Carter leads bill reversing Bidens

jobs killing air quality standards Buddy Carter particulate matter PM 2.5 Original cosponsors include Reps Doug LaMalfa R CA August Pfluger R TX and Randy Weber R TX This bill will 6D California Los

Angeles Protect yourself from the dangerous haze of wildfire smoke Los Angeles Times Do not Create smoke or bad air inside by smoking cigarettes cigars or pipes using gas propane or wood burning stoves or cookers spraying 6E California Riverside County Breaking Gamble Av Wood Fire reported in Riverside

County on March 22 Sacramento Bee Gamble Av Wood Fire has been burning on private land At this time there is no data on the containment status of the fire and the cause has yet to be 6F California

Wood Burning Ban in Effect Friday in Much of Southland MSN A ban on indoor and outdoor wood burning will be in place Friday in much of the Southland due to a forecast of high air pollution in the area

7 Montana University of Montana Tribes join forces to protect air quality KPAX wood burning stoves for heat That gives many citizens here two distinct seasons for smoke pollution wildfire summers and wood burning winters

8 New York Long Island United States Heat Pumps PSEG Long Island Extends \$45 Monthly Bill

Assistance Program PEG Stock News Stock Titan The company also offers comprehensive energy saving tips and rebates for smart thermostats LED bulbs and high efficiency air source heat pumps

9A North Carolina and South Carolina Wildfires in the Carolinas burn more than 6000 acres prompting evacuations a burn ban CNN fire to stop the spread of the Deep Woods Fire on Sunday in Columbus

North Carolina Allison Joyce Getty Images CNN High temperatures strong 9B North Carolina Asheville Polk County wildfires prompt evacuations and air quality alerts disaster center reopens WLOS Deep

Woods The fire originated off of Deep Wood Lane and has burned a total of 1102 acres The fire is 0% contained One house was a complete 9C North Carolina Crews still battling Polk County fires new

evacuation orders added WBTV Three fires The Deep 9D North Carolina Evacuations ordered as

wildfires burn in Helene ravaged western North Carolina NY Post Meanwhile the Deep Woods Fire is the largest at 1802 acres and also remains 0% contained Officials said evacuation orders are in place for

several 9E North Carolina wildfires burn as helicopters firefighters navigate Helene damaged terrain The Asheville Citizen Times Plumes of smoke rise over the mountains along Green River Cove Road in

Mill Spring Saturday Mar 22 2025 as crews work to dispel the Deep Woods 9F North Carolina wildfires

prompt evacuation orders NBC News Two firefighters stand on a road and look at a fire burning on the side of Wood Fire had burned a little more than 1700 acres and the Fish 9G North Carolina Wildfires Scorch More Than 2000 Acres The New York Times The largest two Black Cove which was burning 1239 acres and Deep Wood which was burning 1100 acres — were at zero percent containment A 9H North Carolina Winston Salem Large woods fire reported in Stokes County officials confirm WXII A large woods fire has been reported in the Sandy Ridge area according to officials with the South Stokes Fire and Rescue Top Stories

10 Oklahoma Cache AGAINST CLEAN ENERGY City of Cache passes new ordinance regarding bulk pickup MSN The City of Cache has passed a new ordinance concerning the disposal of bulk trash Can I Burn Wood in my Garden? What You Need to Know to Get Rid

11 Canada Heat Pumps Rebate offered for Manitobans to switch from oil heating to heat pump Winnipeg Free Press Winnipeg Free Press A \$250 bonus payment is also being offered More information about the program including who is eligible and how to apply is available at wfpto

12 United Kingdom Heat Pumps WEB Clean Heat Market Mechanism heat pump installation certification GOVUK Clean Heat Market Mechanism heat pump installation certification The process by which schemes can apply to be an approved certification scheme

13 Czech Republic AGAINST CLEAN ENERGY Can wood burning power stations ever be sustainable? Geographical Magazine A coal fired power station opened in 1972 The Czech multinational company EPH purchased the plant in 2016 It now runs entirely on wood The power

14 United Arab Emirates Exploring PM2.5 and PM10 ML forecasting models a comparative study in the UAE Nature Particulate Matters PM2.5 presents a major health and environmental concern in urban regions

15 Uganda Smoke and survival The hidden cost of cooking with firewood in Uganda Daily Monitor Burning firewood and charcoal releases carbon dioxide black carbon or soot and methane into the atmosphere all of which contribute to climate

16A China Characteristics and sources of PM 2.5 in diverse central China cities under various scenarios ScienceDirectcom PM2.5 peaked in Zhengzhou and Anyang during the day Xinyang peaked at night ○ Secondary aerosols were the main sources of pollution in all three 16B China National and provincial burden of disease attributable to fine particulate matter air pollution The Lancet Wang Q Wang J He MZ et al A county level estimate of PM2.5 related chronic mortality risk in China based on multi model exposure data 17A PM2.5 and Health Effects A systematic review with a Burden of Proof meta analysis of health effects of long term Nature Previous studies have indicated increased dementia risk associated with fine particulate matter PM2.5 exposure however the findings are 17B PM2.5 and Lung Function Associations of ambient fine particulate matter with lung function and nasal microbiota ScienceDirectcom PM2.5 could induce nasal microbiota dysbiosis in asthmatic children • A potential biological pathway linking PM2.5 to respiratory dysfunction is 17C PM2.5 and Urban Indicators Urban form regulation for synergetic PM 2.5 and O 3 control A multi indicator constrained ScienceDirectcom A higher sensitivity of PM2.5 to changes in urban form indicators compared to O3 Abstract Air quality optimization simulation incorporating urban