

Voters in La Crosse demonstrated last week that they would rather have an elected mayor running the city than an appointed administrator.

Polls of other Wisconsin residents seem to show the same attitude toward how judges are hired...preferring elections to appointments. If that's how the Supreme Court and other judges are to be chosen, Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson would like voters to become educated about the candidates. Abrahamson points out that judges are elected in April, when turnout is often low, only around 20 per cent. Speaking on La Crosse Public Radio, the chief justice said she wants judges in Wisconsin to be perceived as fair and non-partisan, without a clear personal agenda.