

# EXHIBIT 6

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
EASTERN DIVISION

OHIO STATE CONFERENCE OF THE  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE  
ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED  
PEOPLE, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

JOHN HUSTED, et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 2:14-cv-00404

Judge Peter C. Economous  
Magistrate Norah McCann King

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**DECLARATION OF JOE SCHIAVONI**

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I, Joe Schiavoni, declare under penalty of perjury that the following is true and accurate:

1. I am currently serving as a State Senator and the Minority Leader of the Ohio Senate. I have served in the role of Minority Leader since January 2014. From January 2012 to January 2014 I served as the Assistant Minority Leader. I have served in the Senate since 2008.
2. As Minority Leader, it is my role to negotiate with other leaders of the General Assembly as the chief political strategist of the caucus. My duties include working with the Leadership Team and/or Ranking Members to decide caucus legislative policy priorities and strategy. I am also responsible for calling and chairing caucus meetings and preparing the caucus agenda in advance, time permitting. I determine items to be placed on the agenda and the order of their appearance, entertain and execute motions, provide limitations on debate, recognize members for the purpose of

speaking on a specific subject under debate, and count votes to determine whether or not a motion has passed.

3. As Assistant Minority Leader, I was responsible for working with the Leader and policy chair to decide caucus legislative policy priorities and strategy. I worked directly with the Committee Chairs and/or Ranking Members to track all significant pieces of legislation in each committee. I was also responsible for leading and coordinating all legislative discussions during caucus meetings. In his absence, I was responsible for performing the duties of the Leader.
4. As a Senator, it is my role to represent my constituents through the introduction and passage of legislation and policy, securing state appropriations for all forms of local government and other significant projects, ensuring state agencies provide responsive and timely services, and attending meetings with constituents and community leaders.
5. SB 238 was introduced on November 13, 2013. It was scheduled for a first hearing in the afternoon of November 19, 2013. It received a second hearing the morning of November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013. It was placed on the floor and was passed out of the Senate on the same day, November 20, 2013, by a vote of 23-10. All ten votes in opposition were all ten of the members of the Minority Caucus.
6. Between introduction and passage of SB 238, the Caucus engaged in discussions in relation to what the legislative strategy was going to be for the bill. The Caucus decided that the scope of SB 238 was too singular, narrow, and harmful – to repeal “Golden Week” – to be made better through amendment. “Golden Week” refers to the period of time during an election where an elector can register to vote and vote at

the same time. Without a wholesale reversal of the intent of SB 238, no members of the Caucus would support it.

7. The Caucus also evaluated strategy in response to a flurry of additional elections bills. In addition to SB 238, there were three other elections bills moving through the Senate in the fall of 2013: SB 200, SB 205, and SB 216. The Caucus did attempt to amend those bills, but was either unsuccessful or the bills were not made measurably more palatable to the members to be able to support them.
8. In Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee, members of the Minority Caucus offered eight amendments on SB 216 which were not accepted.
9. The Minority Caucus does not summarily vote against elections bills. Every member of the Minority Caucus voted for SB 10 on February 27, 2013. Additionally, while every member of the Caucus voted against SB 109 on the floor for Third Consideration, every member of the Caucus voted to concur in House amendments when it came back for Concurrence as it was significantly improved.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct based on my personal knowledge.

Executed this 29<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2014 in Mahoning County, Ohio.



Joe Schiavoni  
Minority Leader, Ohio Senate  
State Senator, 33<sup>rd</sup> District