

RESOLUTION – R2017-12-03

TO: The Honorable Chairperson and Members of the Oconto County Board of Supervisors

RE: RESOLUTION TO CREATE A NONPARTISAN PROCEDURE FOR THE PREPARATION OF LEGISLATIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING PLANS

WHEREAS, currently under the Wisconsin State Constitution, the legislature is directed to redistrict legislative districts according to the number of inhabitants at its next session following the decennial federal census by the majority party, and at the same intervals, the legislature also reapportions congressional districts pursuant to federal law; and

WHEREAS, legislative and congressional redistricting plans enacted pursuant to this procedure are used to elect members of the legislature and members of Congress in the fall of the second year following the year of the census; and

WHEREAS, historically, legislative and congressional plans in Wisconsin have been subject to partisan influence that put the desires of politicians ahead of the electoral prerogative of the people; and

WHEREAS, the 2011 process to draw the maps and fight litigation contesting those maps cost taxpayers nearly \$1.9 million; and

WHEREAS, a panel of federal district court judges has ruled that the redistricting that was done in Wisconsin in 2011 was unconstitutional; and

WHEREAS, redistricting to achieve partisan gains is improper, whether it is done by Republicans or Democrats.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Oconto County Board of Supervisors requests the State Legislature, before the start of the next redistricting process following the 2020 federal census, to pass legislation that creates a fair, nonpartisan procedure for the preparation of state legislative and congressional redistricting plans, that promotes more accountability and transparency, and that prohibits the consideration of voting patterns, party information, and incumbents' residence information or demographic information in drawing the maps, except as necessary to ensure minority participation as required by law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Oconto County Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to Governor Scott Walker, the Wisconsin Counties Association and to Oconto County's Legislative Representatives.

Submitted this 14th day of December, 2017.

BY: FINANCE & INSURANCE COMMITTEE

- Leland T. Rymer, Chairperson
Paul Bednarik
Greg Sekela
Doug McMahon
Gary Frank

Reviewed by Corporation Counsel:

Handwritten initials 'CAM' and date '12.06.2017' with labels 'Initials of Corp. Counsel' and 'Date Reviewed'.

Adopted by Vote: Ayes: 24 Nays: 5 Absent: 1 Vacant: 1

STATE OF WISCONSIN } I, Kim Pytlaski
County Oconto } do hereby certify
that the above is a true and correct copy of the
original now on file in the office of the County Clerk and
that it was adopted by the Oconto County Board of
Supervisors on this date.
Date: 12/14/17 Kim Pytlaski
(Seal) County Clerk