

Notice of Public Meeting
Tuesday, June 13, 2017
3:00 p.m.

**LEGISLATIVE
COMMITTEE**

*Door County Government Center
Chambers Room (C102), 1st floor
421 Nebraska Street, Sturgeon Bay, WI*

AGENDA

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Establish a Quorum ~ Roll Call
3. Adopt Agenda / Properly Noticed
4. Approve Minutes of May 17, 2017 Legislative Committee Meeting
5. Communications
6. Public Comment
7. Supervisor Response
8. Old Business
 - A. Potential Changes to the Visa Program
 - B. General Duties of Committees and Rules of Legislative Committee – Review/Revise and/or Reaffirm
9. New Business
 - A. Review Resolutions from Other Counties and Refer to Appropriate Committees for Recommendation as to Action of the County Board
 1. Walworth County, Burnett County – Change in Unemployment Compensation Rules
 2. Outagamie County - Resolution to Close Loopholes that Shift a Greater Property Tax Burden from Commercial to Residential Homeowners
 3. Outagamie County – Restore Funding for Land Conservation Departments
 4. Outagamie County – Funding of Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
 5. Burnett County – Amendment to Wisconsin Statute 59.22
 6. Lincoln County – Increase Nursing Home Medicaid Funding
 - B. Resolution 2017-__ Recount Reform
 - C. Status on State Budget and Modifications from Joint Finance
 - D. Update on Federal Budget and Impact on Counties
10. Matters to be Placed on a Future Agenda or Referred to a Committee, Official, or Employee
11. Next Meeting Date: tbd
12. Meeting Per Diem Code
13. Adjourn

Deviation from the order shown may occur

<p align="center">MINUTES Wednesday, May 17, 2017</p>	<p align="center">LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE</p>	<p align="center"><i>Door County Government Center Chambers Room (C102), 1st floor 421 Nebraska Street, Sturgeon Bay, WI</i></p>
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Call Meeting to Order

Chair Susan Kohout called the May 17, 2017 meeting of the Legislative Committee to order at 3:00 p.m. at the Door County Government Center.

Establish a Quorum – Roll Call

Committee members present – Steve Sohns, Susan Kohout, Roy Englebert, and David Enigl. Helen Bacon was excused.

Others present – Administrator Ken Pabich, Assistant CC Karyn Behling, County Conservationist Erin Hanson, Public Health Director Rhonda Kolberg, County Clerk Jill Lau, League of Women Voters Rep Barb Graul, Dan Powers, and public.

"These minutes have **not** been reviewed by the oversight committee and are subject to approval at the next regular committee meeting."

Adopt Agenda / Properly Noticed

Motion by Englebert, seconded by Sohns to approve the agenda. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Approve Minutes of March 21, 2017 Legislative Committee Meeting

Motion by Enigl, seconded by Englebert to approve the meeting minutes of March 21, 2017. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Communications

No communications presented.

Public Comment

No one from the public commented.

Supervisor Response

N/A.

Old Business

Door/Kewaunee Legislative Days – Debriefing

The Steering Committee will hold a debriefing on June 16th. Rob Burke has been asked to present an overview at County Board, possibly at the June meeting.

United to Amend

Dan Powers, representing United to Amend, distributed information and updated the committee on the progress Door County United to Amend has made to date. A request for a resolution will be coming in the future. To date 105 municipalities, including nine counties, across the state have adopted a resolution. Will be asking for a state referendum to be held. Dan asked permission to contact committee members to further discuss this issue. Discussion regarding holding a county referendum versus the County Board passing a resolution. The committee requested CC to research steps necessary to place a referendum question on the November 2018 ballot.

New Business

Rules of Order and Duties of Committees – Review/Revise and/or Reaffirm

Information included in the meeting packet was reviewed. Legislative Committee process reviewed. Review of Rule #6 regarding forwarding information to Wisconsin Counties Association; language revision requested to clarify. Rule #7 requested language clarification; serve as liaison to our legislators on positions the county takes.

Administrator Pabich will revise rules and provide the new draft to committee members prior to sending on to the Administrative Committee and County Board.

**Review Resolutions from Other Counties and Refer to Appropriate Committees for Recommendation as to Action of the County Board
Lincoln County, Dunn County & St. Croix County – Create a Non-Partisan Procedure for Redistricting Plans**

Door County has adopted a resolution on this issue.

Burnett County – Change in Unemployment Compensation Rules

Reviewed.

Burnett County – Change to Wisconsin Statute 59.22

Discussion regarding intent.

Outagamie County – Recount Reform

Reviewed. Supervisor Englebert recommends drafting a resolution in support.

Motion by Englebert, seconded by Sohns to direct staff to review and research a resolution. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

St. Croix County – Resolution to Close Loopholes that Shift a Greater Property Tax Burden from Commercial to Residential Homeowners

Door County has adopted a resolution on this issue.

WCA Submission of Resolutions for Consideration at Annual Meeting (Deadline June 26, 2017)

Chair Kohout was asked to serve on the Resolutions Committee. Resolutions were included in the meeting packet and were reviewed. Resolutions suggested to be sent include 2016-57, 2017-14, 2017-22, and 2017-23.

Motion by Englebert, seconded by Enigl to forward the resolutions discussed to WCA. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

State Joint Finance Public Input Meeting – Update

Supervisor Kohout, Supervisor Fisher and County Conservationist Erin Hanson testified.

Public Health Communicable Disease Funding – (AB293) – Update

Public Health Director Rhonda Kolberg explained the County has worked on this issue for the past couple of years. Local Health Protection Act – Assembly and Senate both have bills. Representative Joel Kitchens is a co-sponsor. Asks for base money for communicable diseases.

Federal Budget Proposal and Impact on Counties – Review and Possible Action

Administrator Pabich requested information from department heads regarding the federal budget and how it would impact their departments. Many department heads have not had time to delve into the issues and others are waiting for further information.

Kolberg explained the budget proposes cutting funding to the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program. Letters were sent to Senator Ron Johnson, Senator Tammy Baldwin and Representative Mike Gallagher requesting no cuts. Door County currently receives approximately \$39,000 per year for the program. Kolberg is monitoring.

County Conservationist Erin Hanson outlined three programs facing partial to total funding cuts which include the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, EPA's budget, and the Coastal Zone Management Program. Chair Kohout received an email from Bill Schuster explaining the need to fight to keep the programs.

Administrator Pabich explained Chair Kohout attempted to arrange for legislators to attend a future meeting however, the legislators are not interested at this time. Can continue to work with county staff to reach out to federal legislators and/or their staff. If specifics begin to surface will need to send letters and/or bring resolutions forward to County Board. Chair Kohout noted an invite was extended to have a couple of committee members meet with legislator's staff to discuss issues.

Next Generation E911

Administrator Pabich updated the committee. Sheriff Delarwelle and Law Enforcement Chair Jon Koch drafted a letter which was sent to our legislators.

Potential changes to the Visa Program

Chair Kohout explained there are changes to the Visa Program. H-2B visas are expected to have changes. These visas are used extensively in Door County; Door County businesses will be affected. Chair Kohout has been in contact with Caleb Frostman, DCEDC. Caleb is researching the issue and will keep Chair Kohout up to date. More information to be brought at a future meeting.

Matters to be Placed on a Future Agenda or Referred to a Committee, Official, or Employee

- Potential Changes to the Visa Program

Next Meeting Date

June 13, 2017 – 3:00 p.m.

Meeting Per Diem Code

911

Adjourn

Motion by Englebert, seconded by Enigl to adjourn. Time 4:50 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted by Jill M. Lau, County Clerk

H-2B Visa Cap Could Close Door County Businesses

By Jackson Parr, Peninsula Pulse – April 28th, 2017

Correction: Lynn Zawojski is the owner of Sunnypoint Landscape with her husband Dave, not Sunnypoint Gardens, as originally stated in the article. Sunnypoint Gardens is owned by Tony and Kori Zawojski.

The “Buy American, Hire American” executive order signed by President Donald Trump in Kenosha on April 18 could mean the closure of some Door County businesses that rely on foreign workers for seasonal help.

The H-2B visa program allows up to 66,000 foreign, unskilled workers annually to temporarily work in the United States during the busy season of tourist destinations. The expiration of a returning worker exemption and the unlikelihood of expanding the program under the Trump administration has left businesses without workers as the busy season approaches.

“Not having help, we don’t know how we’re supposed to proceed,” said Lynn Zawojski, owner of Sunnypoint Landscape LLC in Egg Harbor. “We might downscale or consider going out of business. We don’t think we’re going to be the only one.”

Zawojski expected six foreign workers for the summer season under the H-2B visa program. She turned her application in on Jan. 2, expecting to have a foreign worker by the time she opened her business.

“So many people had filed at the same time so they got bombarded,” said Zawojski.

The reason so many people filed right at the start of the year is because Congress did not bring back an exemption for returning H-2B workers. The exemption, which expired in September 2016, meant that anyone who had an H-2B visa in the past three years could return without counting toward that 66,000 annual cap. Five of the six workers Zawojski expected for this year fell under that exemption. Nationally, 198,000 seasonal workers received the returning worker exemption. The businesses that expected them to return again this year must now receive their H-2B visas through the 66,000 cap, which is already full.

The visas are split up over two six-month periods, with 33,000 visas for workers that start between April and October and 33,000 for the other half of the year.

The visa cap for the April to October deadline was reached in record time on March 13. Last year, the cap was not reached until May 12. Zawojski said the agency she works with to get the visas for foreign workers was not able to provide a single visa to any of their clients.

The executive order signed by Trump in Kenosha focused primarily on H-1B visas, which allow hiring of foreign workers for highly specialized work. It ordered several members of the cabinet to evaluate and revise the H-1B visa program with a “Hire American” focus. While the order did not specifically address H-2B visas, it did set out rigorous enforcement of the Immigration and Nationality Act, which sets the 66,000 annual cap for H-2B visas, making changes to the cap or returning worker exemption unlikely.

But members of Congress are trying to bring the returning worker exemption back. A bill from Representatives William Keating (D-Mass.) and Jack Bergman (R-Mich.) would reinstate the seasonal worker exemption immediately. The bill is in the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security. A group of senators have also called for an audit on the H-2B visa program to ensure every visa is actually being used.

A group of landscaping, construction, roofing and fencing companies in Texas went as far as suing the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services to continue processing their H-2B visa applications.

“There is a workforce shortage so if you can’t bring these additional workers, where is the help going to come from?” Zawojski said. “I don’t know what it takes for them to realize that there is shortage.”

Wisconsin’s unemployment rate is currently at 3.4 percent while the national rate is 4.5 percent. Most labor economists say 5.5 percent is full employment, putting Wisconsin and the country in a workforce shortage.

What Each Visa Means

The United States uses visas to bring in foreign workers for many different reasons. Each reason has its own visa and the name for different visas is usually different by one letter or number. Here, we explain the visas you commonly see in the news and in Door County.

J-1 Summer Work Travel

Most businesses in Door County who hire foreign workers do so under the J-1 Summer Work Travel program. Students enrolled full-time in colleges or universities around the world come to work and travel in the United States between one and five month stretches. It is housed in the Department of State. J-1 visas are also given to teachers, physicians, au pairs and more, but under a different subsection of the J-1 program.

H-1B

The H-1B visa is for highly skilled and specialized employees, typically in the tech sector. A minimum bachelor’s degree is required. Sometimes employers have to prove that they cannot find an American skilled enough to perform the job. H-1B visa holders can be in the United States for up to six years. The program is housed in the Department of Homeland Security.

H-2B

The H-2B visa is for temporary non-agricultural workers, typically in seasonal employment such as tourism and landscaping. It usually lasts less than a year, but can be extended up to three years. The program is housed in the Department of Homeland Security.

H-2A

The H-2A visa is for temporary agriculture workers. Farmers who grow cash crops and have a small window for increased employment needs commonly use them. They are not typically used by dairy farms because dairy farms need year-round employment. The program is housed in the Department of Homeland Security.

DUTIES OF COMMITTEES

2017 (as proposed at CB re-organizational meeting 4/18/17)

PREAMBLE

The principal purpose here is to delineate, without limitation by reason of enumeration herein, the primary roles, responsibilities, and authority of Door County's committees, commissions, and boards.

In any county that has a county administrator:

- The county administrator is the chief administrative officer of the county, and coordinates and directs all administrative and management functions of the county government not otherwise vested by law in boards or commissions, or in elected officers (See: Section 59.18 Wisconsin Statutes).
- The various county committees, commissions, and boards are policy making bodies only, determining the broad outlines and principles governing such administrative and management powers.

One objective here is to define and strike a balance between the administrative and management functions and policy making function of county government.

References to the Wisconsin Statutes or Wisconsin Administrative Code are to those in full force and effect on the date this document is approved or as thereafter amended or revised

This document is subject and subordinate to the Wisconsin Statutes and Wisconsin Administrative Code.

FISCAL MATTERS APPLICABLE TO ALL COMMITTEES

1. Annual Budget

The County Administrator and Finance Director will, annually, prepare a proposed budget for submission to the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee will review and approve or modify and approve the proposed budget, and then refer the same (in relevant part) to each departmental oversight committee. The oversight committees will review and approve or modify and approve the proposed budget, and refer the same to the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee will report the final proposed budget to County Board for consideration and action in accordance with Section 65.90 Wisconsin Statutes.

2. Capital Improvements ("C.I.P.")

Each oversight committee is responsible for reviewing and approving all capital item requests, those that pertain to the CIP, prior to the departments submitting them for inclusion in the proposed CIP.

3. Payment Vouchers ("PV")

Each oversight committee is empowered to review ~~and authorize payment for~~ all proper claims and expenses for the departments.

4. Contracts / Agreements

Contracts with a term greater than 1 year shall be approved by the oversight committee. Contracts with terms over 3 years or that were not part of the approved budget shall be recommended for approval to Finance Committee and the County Board.

(5) Legislative Committee

(Created per Resolution 32-99; Duties established by Resolution 41-99)

1. Study all matters of potential legislative nature by County Board members, departments and/or community sources;
2. Draft any Resolutions deemed to be of merit to the County and submit to County Board for determination of action to be taken;
3. Review all Resolutions received from other counties and refer to appropriate committees for recommendation as to action of the County Board;
4. Review legislative material received through WI Counties Association and recommend to County Board the position of Door County on the same;
5. Meet as often as necessary to review all matters received and present items for County Board action;
6. Forward annual resolutions to be considered by the WI Counties Association~~Association the position of the Door County Board on new legislation when appropriate;~~
7. ~~Occasionally meet with and provide information to~~Serve as a liaison to our state and federal legislators on positions which the Door County Board may choose to take.

(5) Legislative Committee

(Created per Resolution 32-99; Duties established by Resolution 41-99)

1. Study all matters of potential legislative nature by County Board members, departments and/or community sources;
2. Draft any Resolutions deemed to be of merit to the County and submit to County Board for determination of action to be taken;
3. Review all Resolutions received from other counties and refer to appropriate committees for recommendation as to action of the County Board;
4. Review legislative material received through WI Counties Association and recommend to County Board the position of Door County on the same;
5. Meet as often as necessary to review all matters received and present items for County Board action;
6. Forward annual resolutions to be considered by the WI Counties Association.
7. Serve as a liaison to our state and federal legislators on positions which the Door County Board may choose to take.

Resolution No. 14-05/17
Recommending Change in Unemployment Compensation Rules

1 Moved/Sponsored by: Executive Committee

2
3 **WHEREAS**, many employers throughout Wisconsin rely on seasonal workers to provide goods
4 and services to our citizens and visitors; and,

5
6 **WHEREAS**, seasonal workers usually return to the same employers and professions; and,

7
8 **WHEREAS**, these workers typically work full-time for roughly seven months per year; and,

9
10 **WHEREAS**, employers have time and money invested in the recruitment and training of these
11 workers; and,

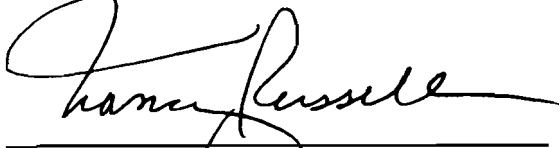
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13 **WHEREAS**, current employment regulations require that these workers apply for employment
14 knowing they will be returning to their previous employer; and,

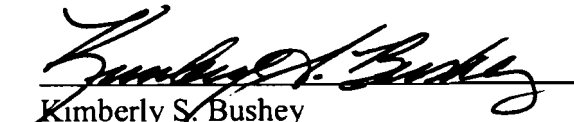
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16 **WHEREAS**, this process forces workers to apply for numerous jobs they are not qualified for
17 nor want; and,

18
19 **WHEREAS**, the law creates an additional burden on employers in the form of time and money
20 in reviewing applications from applicants who are unqualified or who will not accept
21 employment or remain in the job because they intend to return to their seasonal job.

22
23 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Walworth County Board of Supervisors
24 requests the Governor, Legislature and Department of Workforce Development come together to
25 promulgate clear, fair rules regarding unemployment and seasonal workers.

26
27 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, a copy of this resolution shall be sent to Governor Walker, the
28 Walworth County Legislative delegation, Wisconsin Counties Association and all Wisconsin
29 Counties.

30
31 
32 _____
33 Nancy Russell
34 County Board Chair

35
36 
37 _____
38 Kimberly S. Bushey
39 County Clerk

County Board Meeting Date: May 9, 2017

Action Required: Majority Vote X Two-thirds Vote _____ Other _____

This Resolution/Ordinance was:
Adopted; Roll Call/U.C./Voice
Rejected/Referred/Laid Over
Ayes: Noes: Absent:
Date May 9, 2017

Policy and Fiscal Note is attached.

Reviewed and approved pursuant to Section 2-91 of the Walworth County Code of Ordinances:

DA Brett 4/27/17
Date
David A. Brett
County Administrator/Corporation Counsel

N Andersen 4/28/17
Date
Nicole Andersen
Deputy County Administrator - Finance

If unsigned, exceptions shall be so noted by the County Administrator.

RESOLUTION # 2017-07


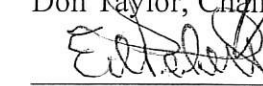
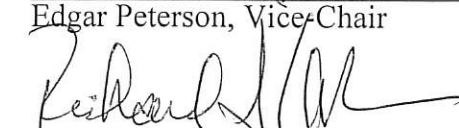
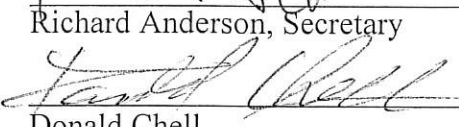
Recommending Change in Unemployment Compensation Rules

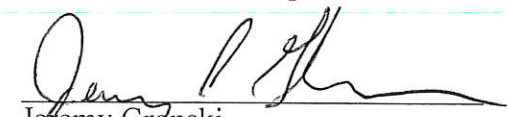
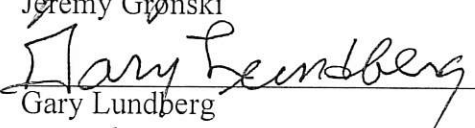

1 To the Honorable members of the Burnett County Board of Supervisors;
2
3 **WHEREAS**, Burnett County and northern Wisconsin employers rely on seasonal workers to
4 provide goods and services to our citizens and visitors; and
5
6 **WHEREAS**, seasonal workers usually return to the same employers and professions; and
7
8 **WHEREAS**, these workers, on par, work full-time for roughly seven months per year; and
9
10 **WHEREAS**, employers have time and money invested in recruitment and training of these
11 workers; and
12
13 **WHEREAS**, current unemployment regulations require that these workers apply for
14 employment knowing they will be returning to their previous employer; and
15
16 **WHEREAS**, such application forces workers to commit fraud applying for jobs they are not
17 qualified for nor want; and
18
19 **WHEREAS**, this creates an additional burden on employers in the form of time and money in
20 reviewing applications that are not wanted or needed but required so seasonal employees make
21 claim benefits; and
22
23 **WHEREAS**, Governor Walker’s current proposal would increase the number of applications
24 required.
25
26 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Burnett County Board of Supervisors requests
27 the Governor, Legislature and Department of Workforce Development come together to
28 promulgate clear, fair rules regarding unemployment and seasonal workers; and
29
30 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) consider this
31 resolution at their Annual Meeting for consideration to become part of the WCA Platform; and
32
33 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to Governor
34 Walker, the Burnett County Legislative delegation, Wisconsin Counties Association and all
35 Wisconsin Counties.
36
37 Respectfully submitted and recommended for adoption by the Administration Committee.
38 Signed and dated this 16th day of January, 2017.
39
40 Amended for at the Burnett County Board of Supervisor’s Meeting on May 18, 2018.
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RESOLUTION # 2017-07

Recommending Change in Unemployment Compensation Rules

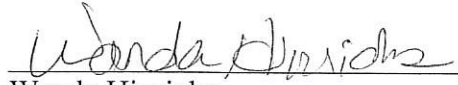
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Don Taylor, Chair

Edgar Peterson, Vice-Chair

Richard Anderson, Secretary

Donald Chell


Jeremy Gronski

Gary Lundberg

Gerald Pardun

State of Wisconsin
County of Burnett

I, Wanda Hinrichs, the duly elected and qualified County Clerk in and for Burnett County, do hereby certify that the attached Resolution 2017-07, "Recommending Change in Unemployment Compensation Rules" was adopted by the Burnett County Board of Supervisors at a legally assembled meeting at which a quorum was present and acted throughout. The date of passage was May 18, 2017.


Wanda Hinrichs,
Burnett County Clerk

**OUTAGAMIE COUNTY BOARD MEETING
APRIL 18, 2017**

RESOLUTION NO. 5—2017-18

Supervisor Sturn moved, seconded by Supervisor Croatt, for adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. 5—2017-18 IS ADOPTED.

RollCall-Pro Advanced Tuesday, April 18, 2017					
1. THOMPSON	YES	13. WEGAND	YES	25. NOOYEN	YES
2. MILLER	YES	14. DE GROOT	YES	26. DUNCAN	YES
3. GRADY	YES	15. VANDEN HEUVEL	YES	27. CULBERTSON	YES
4. PATIENCE	YES	16. LEMANSKI	YES	28. STURN	YES
5. GABRIELSON	YES	17. CROATT	YES	29. BUCHMAN	YES
6. FOSS	YES	18. SPEARS	YES	30. GRIESEBACH	Absent
7. HAMMEN	YES	19. STUECK	YES	31. CLEGG	YES
8. T. KRUEGER	YES	20. THOMAS	YES	32. VANDERHEIDEN	YES
9. J. KRUEGER	YES	21. THYSSEN	YES	O'CONNOR-SCHEVERS	YES
10. LAMERS	YES	22. HAGEN	YES	34. RETTLER	YES
11. MEYER	YES	23. KLEMP	YES	35. MELCHERT	YES
12. McDANIEL	YES	24. PLEUSS	Absent	36. SUPRISE	YES
Item 10 Passed (34 Y - 0 N - 0 A - 2 Absent) Majority Vote >					

RESOLUTION NO.: 5—2017-18

TO THE HONORABLE, THE OUTAGAMIE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

MAJORITY

1 Homeowners in Wisconsin pay 70% of the total statewide property tax levy. This
2 disproportionate burden is about to get much worse unless the Legislature addresses tax
3 avoidance strategies that national chains like Walgreens, Target and Lowe's are using
4 across the country to gain dramatic reductions in their property tax bills at the expense of
5 homeowners and other taxpayers.
6

7 A carefully orchestrated wave of hundreds of lawsuits in Wisconsin is forcing assessors
8 to slash the market value of thriving national retail stores, shifting their tax burden to
9 local mom and pop shops and homeowners.
10

11 Walgreens and CVS stores in Wisconsin have argued in communities across the state that
12 the assessed value of their property for property tax purposes should be less than half of
13 their actual sale prices on the open market. In many cases the courts have sided with
14 Walgreens and CVS, requiring communities to refund tax revenue back to the stores.
15

16 Big Box chains are using what is known as the "Dark Store Theory" to argue that the
17 assessed value of a new store in a thriving location should be based on comparing their
18 buildings to sales of vacant stores in abandoned locations for a different market segment.
19

20 The Indiana Legislature and the Michigan State House have both overwhelmingly passed
21 legislation prohibiting assessors from valuing new big box stores the same as nearby
22 abandoned stores from a different market segment.
23

24 This resolution urges the Governor and State Legislature to protect homeowners and
25 main street businesses from having even more of the property tax burden shifted to them
26 by passing legislation clarifying that 1) leases are appropriately factored into the
27 valuation of leased properties, and 2) when using the comparable sale method of
28 valuation, assessors shall consider as comparable only those sales within the same market
29 segment exhibiting a similar highest and best use rather than similarly sized but vacant
30 properties in abandoned locations.
31

32 NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned members of the Finance Committee recommend adoption
33 of the following resolution.

34 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Outagamie County Board of Supervisors does urge the Governor
35 and State Legislature to protect homeowners and main street businesses from having even more of the
36 property tax burden shifted to them by passing legislation clarifying that 1) leases are appropriately

1 factored into the valuation of leased properties, and 2) when using the comparable sale method of
2 valuation, assessors shall consider as comparable only those sales within the same market segment
3 exhibiting a similar highest and best use rather than similarly sized but vacant properties in abandoned
4 locations, and

5 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Outagamie County Clerk be directed to forward a copy
6 of this resolution to the Outagamie County Executive, all Wisconsin counties, and the Outagamie
7 County Lobbyist for distribution to the Governor and the Legislature.

8 Dated this 18th day of April 2017

9
10 Respectfully Submitted,

11 FINANCE COMMITTEE

12
13
14
15 Kevin M. Sturn
16 Kevin Sturn

17 Peter Staeck
18 Peter Staeck

19
20
21 James Pleuss
22 James Pleuss

23
24 Nadine Miller
25 Nadine Miller

26 Chris Croatt
27 Chris Croatt

28
29 Duly and officially adopted by the County Board on: April 18, 2017

30
31 Signed: [Signature]
32 Board Chairperson

33
34 Signed: [Signature]
35 County Clerk

36 Approved: 4.20.17 Vetoed: _____

37 Signed: [Signature]
County Executive



131 W. Wilson St., Suite 505
 Madison, Wisconsin 53703
 phone (608) 267-2380; (800) 991-5502
 fax: (608) 267-0645
 league@lwm-info.org; www.lwm-info.org

Issue Briefing: Dark Store Tax Shift

Court rulings giving tax cuts to chain stores result in tax increases for homeowners

Property taxes for homeowners and main street businesses are increasing in Wisconsin as national retailers pay less. A carefully-orchestrated wave of 100s of lawsuits in Wisconsin is forcing assessors to slash the market value of thriving national retail stores, shifting their tax burden to local mom and pop shops and to their home-owning customers. If the Legislature fails to close this loophole, we estimate that millions of dollars in property taxes will shift from large commercial properties to homeowners and other taxpayers over the next few years.

The table below shows what assessors estimate the tax increases that homeowners in select communities will experience when the Dark Store theory is fully-implemented. Calculations are based on amount of national chain retail, 2015 mill rates, and median home values:

City	Estimated Tax Increase	Average increase per home per year
Brookfield	5%	\$233.50
Hudson	9%	\$374.58
La Crosse	7%	\$197.12
Oconomowoc	8%	\$360.96
Pleasant Prairie	17%	\$892.50
Wauwatosa	7%	\$382.12
West Bend	8%	\$253.89

This is not a new problem, nor is it exclusive to Wisconsin. Wisconsin is merely the latest state to experience this coordinated legal attack on in-state taxpayers. Indiana and Michigan have already experienced it. In Indiana, the Legislature promptly slammed the door on this court-created loophole. A similar legislative fix is pending in Michigan. Wisconsin must do the same.

Loophole #1: It's just a big empty box. Tax attorneys for Target, Meijer, and other big box chains are using what is known as the "Dark Store Theory" to argue that the assessed value of a new, thriving store should be based on the value of vacant or abandoned buildings of similar size. They argue that regardless of their new location or how updated their building is the value for 'property tax purposes' should be based on the value of the buildings and locations they abandoned prior to moving into the new store at their new location.

Real World Example from Wauwatosa: The Lowe's store at 12000 W. Berleigh St. is currently challenging the city's assessed valuation. The City assessed the property at \$13.6 million. The City's expert believes the market value is actually \$17.7 million. Lowe's argues the property's current value is \$7.1 million of which \$3 million is attributed to land. Yet, the land was purchased in 2007 for \$9,012,800. Lowe's built a

140,000 square foot building in 2006 for approximately \$7 million, they then subsequently purchased the land after constructing the building. Altogether, Lowe's spent in excess of \$16 million to acquire the land and build the structure. Now, Lowe's argues that the land was devalued from \$9 million to \$3 million because the big box store was constructed. Lowe's insists that under Wisconsin law (based on the *Walgreens* decision) only vacant dark stores, such as the vacated big box stores near the former Northridge shopping area, can be used as comparables. The City disagrees, but their only options are costly litigation or settling with the property owner on a compromise value.

Loophole #2: Gold box on Wall Street, cardboard box on Main Street. Walgreens and CVS stores use a different, but related strategy, to argue that the assessed value of their properties should be less than half of actual sale prices on the open market. The two have already sued more than 100 Wisconsin communities, claiming the rent they pay for their newly-constructed, highly-visible corner locations doesn't accurately reflect its market value. These properties are developed to the retailer's specifications and leased to them with no landlord responsibility other than collecting rent. More than 80% of Walgreen stores and 95% of CVS stores operate under a lease arrangement. This arrangement is so desirable that drugstores have become the most popular single-tenant properties in the national real estate investment market. But attorneys for Walgreen and CVS argue that their actual sale prices don't represent market value and the underlying leases are the wrong tool for determining the property's value for 'property tax purposes.' Instead, they say, the assessments should hinge on the amount the landlord could get if the drugstore moved out and a different retailer moved in.

Real World Example from Oshkosh: Walgreens challenged the City of Oshkosh's assessments of two of its stores. The city based its assessment on the actual amounts for which the properties were sold. The court rejected the city's approach and ordered that the two Walgreens be refunded for several tax years. The total amount of the refunds equaled \$305,672. Other taxpayers in Oshkosh now have to pick up Walgreen's former share of the tax burden. There are over 200 Walgreens located in Wisconsin's cities and villages.

Other states have stopped this tax shift. The Republican-controlled Indiana Legislature overwhelmingly passed bipartisan legislation in 2015 and 2016 prohibiting assessors from valuing new big box stores the same as abandoned stores in a different market segment. The Michigan legislature is considering similar proposals. In May 2016 the Michigan house passed a dark store fix bill by a vote of 97-11. The bill is pending in the Michigan Senate.

Solution: Follow Indiana's lead and pass legislation in Wisconsin closing off these tax strategies and stopping the tax shift to home owners. Pass legislation clarifying that:

- 1 Leases are appropriately factored into the valuation of leased properties; and
- 2 When using the comparable sale method of valuation, assessors shall consider as comparable only those sales within the same market segment exhibiting a similar highest and best use rather than similarly sized but vacant properties in abandoned locations. 11/1/16

**OUTAGAMIE COUNTY BOARD MEETING
MAY 23, 2017**

RESOLUTION NO. 9—2017-18

ROLL CALL to adopt & lock in. RESOLUTION NO. 9—2017-18 IS ADOPTED & LOCKED IN.

RollCall-Pro Advanced Tuesday, May 23, 2017					
1. THOMPSON	YES	13. WEGAND	YES	25. NOOYEN	YES
2. MILLER	YES	14. DE GROOT	YES	26. DUNCAN	YES
3. GRADY	YES	15. VANDEN HEUVEL	YES	27. CULBERTSON	YES
4. PATIENCE	YES	16. LEMANSKI	Absent	28. STURN	YES
5. GABRIELSON	YES	17. CROATT	YES	29. BUCHMAN	YES
6. FOSS	YES	18. SPEARS	YES	30. GRIESBACH	YES
7. HAMMEN	YES	19. STUECK	YES	31. CLEGG	YES
8. T. KRUEGER	YES	20. THOMAS	YES	32. VANDERHEIDEN	YES
9. J. KRUEGER	YES	21. THYSSEN	YES	O'CONNOR-SCHEVERS	YES
10. LAMERS	YES	22. HAGEN	YES	34. RETTLER	Absent
11. MEYER	YES	23. KLEMP	YES	35. MELCHERT	YES
12. McDANIEL	YES	24. PLEUSS	YES	36. SUPRISE	YES
Item 9 Passed (34 Y - 0 N - 0 A - 2 Absent) Majority Vote >					

**OUTAGAMIE COUNTY BOARD MEETING
MAY 23, 2017**

RESOLUTION NO. 9—2017-18

Supervisor Thyssen moved, seconded by Supervisor Spears, to reconsider for the purpose to lock in.

ROLL CALL to reconsider. RESOLUTION NO. 9—2017-18 IS RECONSIDERED.

RollCall-Pro Advanced Tuesday, May 23, 2017					
1. THOMPSON	YES	13. WEGAND	YES	25. NOOYEN	YES
2. MILLER	YES	14. DE GROOT	YES	26. DUNCAN	YES
3. GRADY	YES	15. VANDEN HEUVEL	YES	27. CULBERTSON	YES
4. PATIENCE	YES	16. LEMANSKI	Absent	28. STURN	NO
5. GABRIELSON	YES	17. CROATT	YES	29. BUCHMAN	YES
6. FOSS	YES	18. SPEARS	YES	30. GRIESBACH	NO
7. HAMMEN	YES	19. STUECK	YES	31. CLEGG	YES
8. T. KRUEGER	YES	20. THOMAS	YES	32. VANDERHEIDEN	YES
9. J. KRUEGER	YES	21. THYSSEN	YES	O'CONNOR-SCHEVERS	YES
10. LAMERS	YES	22. HAGEN	YES	34. RETTLER	Absent
11. MEYER	YES	23. KLEMP	YES	35. MELCHERT	YES
12. McDANIEL	YES	24. PLEUSS	YES	36. SUPRISE	YES
Item 8 Passed (32 Y - 2 N - 0 A - 2 Absent) Majority Vote >					

**OUTAGAMIE COUNTY BOARD MEETING
MAY 23, 2017**

RESOLUTION NO. 9—2017-18

Supervisor J. Krueger moved, seconded by Supervisor Melchert, for adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. 9—2017-18 IS ADOPTED.

RollCall-Pro Advanced Tuesday, May 23, 2017					
1. THOMPSON	YES	13. WEGAND	YES	25. NOOYEN	YES
2. MILLER	YES	14. DE GROOT	YES	26. DUNCAN	YES
3. GRADY	YES	15. VANDEN HEUVEL	YES	27. CULBERTSON	YES
4. PATIENCE	YES	16. LEMANSKI	Absent	28. STURN	YES
5. GABRIELSON	YES	17. CROATT	YES	29. BUCHMAN	YES
6. FOSS	YES	18. SPEARS	YES	30. GRIESBACH	YES
7. HAMMEN	YES	19. STUECK	YES	31. CLEGG	YES
8. T. KRUEGER	YES	20. THOMAS	YES	32. VANDERHEIDEN	YES
9. J. KRUEGER	YES	21. THYSSEN	YES	O'CONNOR-SCHEVERS	YES
10. LAMERS	YES	22. HAGEN	YES	34. RETTLER	Absent
11. MEYER	YES	23. KLEMP	YES	35. MELCHERT	YES
12. McDANIEL	YES	24. PLEUSS	YES	36. SUPRISE	YES
Item 7 Passed (34 Y - 0 N - 0 A - 2 Absent) Majority Vote >					

RESOLUTION NO.: 9—2017-18

TO THE HONORABLE, THE OUTAGAMIE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

MAJORITY

1 The County Land Conservation Department is the necessary local delivery mechanism for
2 a wide range of natural resource management programs including non-point pollution
3 control, reclamation of non-metallic mines, invasive species control, woodland
4 management, and lakes protection. The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation supports the
5 concept of credit trading and adaptive management between municipalities and the
6 agriculture community to reduce phosphorus discharge; urges the state to stop the spread
7 of invasive species into Wisconsin; and supports adequate funding to local units of
8 government to implement the nonpoint program, provided that local regulations do not
9 exceed state standards.

10
11 The Wisconsin Board of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection acknowledges the
12 counties' statutory role in coordinating and implementing farm conservation standards at
13 the local level, and supports efforts to ensure that adequate resources are available for
14 counties to do their job. State grants for County Land Conservation staff have decreased
15 since the program began. The Governor's budget has not requested maintenance of the
16 annual average staff funding of \$9.3 million that was included in the pre-recession budgets
17 from 2001 to 2011, thus reducing the funding to \$8 million annually in the 2017-19
18 budget.

19
20 The Wisconsin Counties Association 2017 statewide policy recognizes the value of the
21 work County Land Conservation Departments provide to farmers and Wisconsin citizens
22 by supporting adequate resources to implement maintaining this base level of funding.
23 The inability to adequately fund local voluntarily accepted farm conservation practices has
24 led to environmental problems and increasing citizen suits and court decisions against
25 farmers.

26
27 NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned members of the Agriculture, Extension Education, Land
28 Conservation & Zoning Committee recommend adoption of the following resolution.

29 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Outagamie County Board of Supervisors does urge the Governor of
30 the State of Wisconsin and all elected representatives in the Wisconsin State Legislature to return to the
31 \$9.3 million appropriation for state aid to counties, recognizing the invaluable service that county
32 conservation employees provide in helping Wisconsin farmers grow our state's agriculture while
33 preserving the state's land and water resources for future generations, and

**OUTAGAMIE COUNTY BOARD MEETING
APRIL 18, 2017**

RESOLUTION NO. 3—2017-18

Supervisor Suprise moved, seconded by Supervisor Grady, for adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. 3—2017-18 IS ADOPTED.

RollCall-Pro Advanced Tuesday, April 18, 2017					
1. THOMPSON	YES	13. WEGAND	YES	25. NOOYEN	YES
2. MILLER	YES	14. DE GROOT	YES	26. DUNCAN	YES
3. GRADY	YES	15. VANDEN HEUVEL	YES	27. CULBERTSON	YES
4. PATIENCE	YES	16. LEMANSKI	YES	28. STURN	NO
5. GABRIELSON	YES	17. CROATT	YES	29. BUCHMAN	YES
6. FOSS	YES	18. SPEARS	YES	30. GRIESBACH	Absent
7. HAMMEN	YES	19. STUECK	YES	31. CLEGG	YES
8. T. KRUEGER	YES	20. THOMAS	YES	32. VANDERHEIDEN	YES
9. J. KRUEGER	YES	21. THYSSEN	YES	O'CONNOR-SCHEVERS	YES
10. LAMERS	YES	22. HAGEN	YES	34. RETTLER	YES
11. MEYER	YES	23. KLEMP	NO	35. MELCHERT	YES
12. McDANIEL	YES	24. PLEUSS	Absent	36. SUPRISE	YES
Item 8 Passed (32 Y - 2 N - 0 A - 2 Absent) Majority Vote >					

RESOLUTION NO.: 3—2017-18

TO THE HONORABLE, THE OUTAGAMIE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

MAJORITY

1 The Trump Administration has proposed cutting funding for the Great Lakes Restoration
2 Initiative (GLRI). This \$300 million appropriation provides funding to multiple federal
3 agencies which then makes competitive grants available to local units of government to
4 protect and improve water quality in the Great Lakes.
5

6 Since the initiative began, Outagamie County and surrounding counties which make up
7 portions of the Lower Fox River Basin have successfully installed several million dollars
8 of conservation practices on the landscape and have seen measurable improvements in
9 water quality in watercourses flowing to the Bay of Green Bay and Lake Michigan.
10

11 If funding for this program is eliminated, it will have significant impacts on local
12 programs working towards improving water quality locally and overall within the Great
13 Lakes region. Currently, GLRI funding accounts for approximately 30% of the Land
14 Conservation Department budget annually.
15

16 This resolution requests supporting full funding of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
17 and authorizes the Outagamie County Lobbyist to work with Wisconsin Counties
18 Association, the NACo, and state and federal legislators on this issue.
19

20 NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned members of the Agriculture, Extension Education, Land

21 Conservation & Zoning Committee recommend adoption of the following resolution.

22 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Outagamie County Board of Supervisors does approve of
23 supporting full funding of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and authorizes the Outagamie County
24 Lobbyist to work with Wisconsin Counties Association, NACo, and state and federal legislators on this
25 issue, and

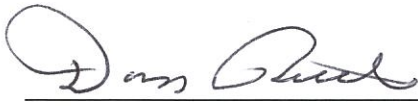
26 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Outagamie County Clerk be directed to forward a copy
27 of this resolution to the Outagamie County Land Conservationist, all Wisconsin counties, Wisconsin
28 Counties Association, NACo, and to the Outagamie County Lobbyist for distribution to the governor
29 and state and federal legislators.
30

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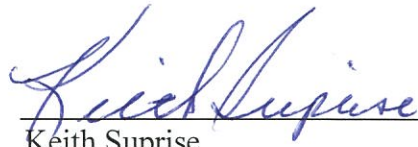
Dated this 18th day of April 2017

Respectfully Submitted,

AGRICULTURE, EXTENSION
EDUCATION, ZONING & LAND
CONSERVATION COMMITTEE



Daniel Rettler



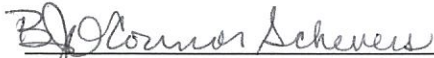
Keith Suprise



Daniel Melchert



Debra VanderHeiden



BJ O'Connor-Schevers

Duly and officially adopted by the County Board on: April 18, 2017

Signed: 

Board Chairperson



County Clerk

Approved: 4.20.17

Vetoed: _____

Signed: 

County Executive

[INTRODUCTION:] This form must be attached to any resolution or ordinance which contains a spending or revenue proposal. The form should be completed by an individual within the department initiating the resolution or ordinance with assistance from the Financial Services Department. Contact the Finance Director (1675), Controller (1674) or Staff Accountant (1681) for assistance. Once completed, forward a copy of the form to the Financial Services Department for their review. Financial Services will forward a reviewed copy of the fiscal note to Legislative Services

1. Subject: Resolution supporting full funding of Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

2. Description: This section must be completed for all fiscal notes. Briefly and concisely describe the request. State assumptions used and discuss any current year and long-term fiscal impacts. (A separate attachment can be used)

The Trump Administration has proposed cutting funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (a \$300 million annual appropriation) which provides funding to multiple Federal Agencies which is then made available through competitive grants to local units of government for projects and staff that work to protect and improve water quality in the Great Lakes. Since the initiative started, Outagamie County and surrounding counties which make up portions of the Lower Fox River Basin have successfully installed several million dollars worth of conservation practices on the landscape and have seen measurable improvements in water quality in watercourses flowing to the Bay of Green Bay and Lake Michigan. If funding for this program is eliminated, it will have significant impacts on local programs working towards improving water quality locally and overall within the Great Lakes region. Currently, GLRI funding makes up approximately 30% of the Land Conservation Department Budget annually. The impact of this proposal on current and future year Land Conservation budgets is unknown at this time.

Current Year Budget Impact (Check one or more of the following boxes)

Revenues Expenses (Cost) None

3. Is the specific cost or revenue included in the current year's budget? yes () no () partially ()

4. If the proposal requests additional spending, can the additional cost be absorbed within the current year's line item? yes () no () n/a (X)

5. Is the proposal to accept additional revenues only? yes () no ()

6. Does this request modify/adjust the current year budget? yes () no ()
If no, skip to question 8 below.

7. Detail current year budget changes. Please list cost center name, line item, account number and either the increase or decrease amount. (Please note that all budget adjustments must balance. For example, an increase in an expenditure account must be offset by a decrease in another expenditure account or the contingency fund or an increase in a revenue account or other funding sources such as fund balance applied.)

COST CENTER NAME	LINE ITEM (i.e. Salaries, Supplies, Etc.)	ACCOUNT NUMBER INCLUDING COST CENTER (i.e. 1004100.5100, 1004100.5400, etc.)	INCREASE (DECREASE) AMOUNT

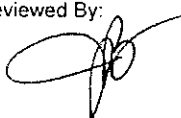
Annual and Long-Term Impact

8. Is the above Increase/Decrease a nonrecurring one-time expense or revenue? yes () no (X) n/a ()

9. What is the anticipated annual and/or long-term cost or revenue impact? Annual Cost _____
Annual Revenue _____

Fiscal Note Prepared by Greg Baneck

For Financial Services purposes only

Reviewed By:  3/29/17

If expenditures are recorded in the financial system at a level of detail lower than the level 6 as shown above, indicate the specific account numbers and amounts below:
Detail Expenditures Account Number Amount

RESOLUTION # 2017-08**Recommending Amendment to Wisconsin Statute 59.22**

1 To the Honorable members of the Burnett County Board of Supervisors;

2
3 **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin's elected officers perform admirable work on behalf of the citizens and
4 visitors; and

5
6 **WHEREAS**, Statute 59.22(1)(a)(1) does not allow counties to increase the salary of an elected
7 officer during the term; and

8
9 **WHEREAS**, the work performed by the elected officials often merit an increase; and

10
11 **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Burnett County Board of Supervisors does
12 hereby recommend to the legislature that the words ~~increased nor~~ be stricken from the law, as
13 follows:

14
15 **59.22 Compensation, fees, salaries and traveling expenses of officials and employees. (1)**
16 Elected Officials (a) 1. The board shall, before the earliest time for filing nomination papers for
17 any elected office to be voted on in the county, other than supervisors and circuit judges, which
18 officer is paid in whole or part from the county treasury, establish the total annual compensation
19 for services to be paid to the officer exclusive of reimbursements for expenses out-of-pocket
20 provided for in sub (3). Except as provided in subd. 2, the annual compensation may be
21 established by resolution or ordinance, on a basis of straight salary, fees, or part salary and part
22 fees, it shall be in lieu of all fees, including per diem and other forms of compensation for
23 services rendered, except those specifically reserved to the officer in the resolution or ordinance.
24 The compensation established shall not be diminished during the officer's term and shall remain
25 for ensuing terms unless changed by the board. Court fees shall not be used for compensation for
26 county officers; and

27
28 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) consider this
29 resolution at their Annual Meeting for consideration to become part of the WCA Platform; and

30
31 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, a copy of this resolution shall be sent to Burnett County
32 Legislative delegation, Wisconsin Counties Association and all Wisconsin counties.


33
34 Respectfully submitted and recommended for adoption by the Administration Committee.
35 Signed and dated this 21st day of February, 2017.

36
37 Amended at the Burnett County Board of Supervisor's Meeting on May 18, 2018.

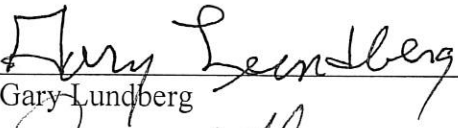
RESOLUTION # 2017-08

Recommending Amendment to Wisconsin Statute 59.22

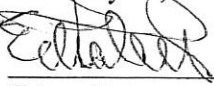
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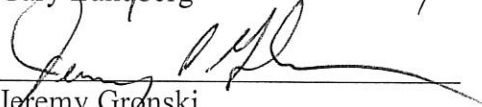
Don Taylor, Chair




Gary Lundberg



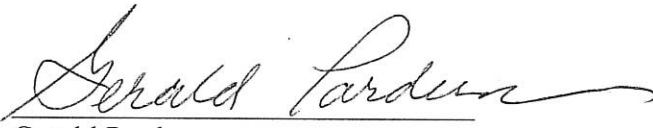
Edgar Peterson, Vice-Chair



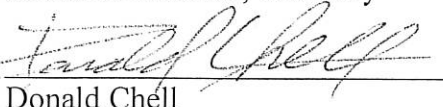
Jeremy Gronski



Richard Anderson, Secretary



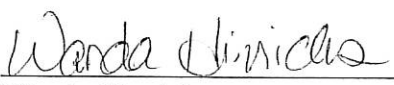
Gerald Pardun



Donald Chell

State of Wisconsin
County of Burnett

I, Wanda Hinrichs, the duly elected and qualified County Clerk in and for Burnett County, do hereby certify that the attached Resolution 2017-08, "Recommending Amendment to Wisconsin Statute 59.22" was adopted by the Burnett County Board of Supervisors at a legally assembled meeting at which a quorum was present and acted throughout. The date of passage was May 18, 2017.



Wanda Hinrichs,
Burnett County Clerk

Resolution 2017-05-74

REQUEST FOR STAFF LEGISLATURE TO INCREASE NURSING HOME MEDICAID FUNDING

WHEREAS, approximately 65% of nursing home residents in Wisconsin are Medicaid recipients,

WHEREAS, there is an overall Medicaid deficit of \$331.8 million between the costs incurred by Wisconsin nursing homes to provide services and what they actually receive in payment for those services,

WHEREAS, the average nursing home in Wisconsin loses \$55.89 each day for each Medicaid resident cared for,

WHEREAS, after the Supplemental Payment funding Pine Crest Nursing Home lost \$51.62 per day for each Medicaid resident for total loss of \$2,333,275 in fiscal year 2016.

WHEREAS, Wisconsin nursing homes and assisted living facilities are in major workforce crisis with one out of every seven positions vacant,

WHEREAS, the large number of Medicaid residents our facility serves makes it tremendously difficult to compete in the current tight labor market,

WHEREAS, there is a direct correlation between quality staffing and quality care,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Lincoln County Board of Supervisors urges Governor Scott Walker and the Wisconsin Legislature to provide sufficient Medicaid funding for nursing homes and assisted living facilities in the 2017-2019 state budget to help address the Medicaid deficit so these facilities have the financial resources available to compete for caregiver staff to ensure continued quality care to our residents and tenants,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution to be forwarded by the Lincoln County Clerk to the Wisconsin Counties Association, all Lincoln County State Representatives and Senators, the State Joint Finance Committee and Governor Scott Walker.

Dated: 05/16/2017

Introduced by: Pine Crest Board of Trustees

Date Passed: 5/15/2017 Committee Vote: All Ayes

Fiscal Impact: Increased Funding for Pine Crest Nursing Home

Drafted by: Lisa Gervais RN, BSN, NHA

Motion by: Weaver				
Second by: Gilk				
Dist.	Supervisor	Y	N	Abs
19	Allen	X		
10	Baughan	X		
1	Bialecki	X		
11	Breitenmoser	X		
13	Crosby	X		
12	Gilk	X		
14	Hafeman			
8	Heller	X		
17	Koth	X		
15	Lee	X		
16	Loka	X		
3	Mueller	X		
4				
21	Pike	X		
22	Reichelt	X		
7	Rusch	X		
5	Saal	X		
20	Vander Sanden	X		
18	Voermans	X		
2	Weaver	X		
6	Woller	X		
9	Zeit		X	
Totals		19	1	
Carried				
Defeated				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amended				
Voice vote				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roll call				

STATE OF WISCONSIN)
) SS:
 COUNTY OF LINCOLN)

I hereby certify that this resolution/ordinance is a true and correct copy of a resolution/ordinance adopted by Lincoln County Board of Supervisors on:

May 16, 2017

Christopher J. Marlowe
 Christopher J. Marlowe
 County Clerk



Resolution 2017-05-74 Amendment 1

Motion by: _____ Gilk _____

Second by: _____ Baughan _____

to amend to strike "Staff" from the title and in the Be It Further Resolved paragraph include "to all Wisconsin Counties" after Association.

District:	Supervisor	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
19	Allen				
10	Baughan				
1	Bialecki				
11	Breitenmoser				
13	Crosby				
12	Gilk				
14	Hafeman				
8	Heller				
17	Koth				
15	Lee				
16	Loka				
3	Mueller				
4					
21	Pike				
22	Reichelt				
7	Rusch				
5	Saal				
20	Vander Sanden				
18	Voermans				
2	Weaver				
6	Woller				
9	Zeitz				
Totals					

Carried
 Defeated
 Amended

Voice Vote
 Roll Call



**WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
AMENDMENT MEMO**

2017 Assembly Bill 153

Assembly Amendment 1

Memo published: May 9, 2017

*Contact: Jessica Karls-Ruplinger, Deputy Director
Katie Bender-Olson, Senior Staff Attorney*

2017 ASSEMBLY BILL 153

Assembly Bill 153 makes several changes relating to recounts of elections. The bill limits which candidates may request a recount by requiring a candidate to be within a specified vote margin of a leading candidate in order to request a recount. The bill also allows costs incurred by the Wisconsin Elections Commission to be calculated into the recount fee amount paid by a petitioner, and provides county boards of canvassers an additional day to convene and begin a recount. Finally, the bill shortens the deadline for requesting a recount by two business days.

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1

Assembly Amendment 1 shortens the deadline for requesting a recount for president, but maintains the current law deadline for requesting any other recount.

Assembly Bill 153 shortens the deadline for requesting a recount from 5 p.m. on the third business day to 5 p.m. on the first business day following the last meeting day of the municipal or county board of canvassers determining the election for that office or that referendum question following canvassing of all provisional ballots, or if more than one board of canvassers makes the determination, the first business day following the last meeting day of the last board of canvassers which makes a determination following canvassing of all valid provisional ballots.

Assembly Amendment 1 maintains the deadline of 5 p.m. on the **third business day**, but provides that with regard to an election for president, a petitioner must file a recount request by 5 p.m. on the **first business day** following the day on which the commission

- 2 -

receives the last statement from a county board of canvassers for the election following canvassing of all valid provisional ballots.

In addition, the amendment extends from 30 to 45 days the time for a recount petitioner to pay any outstanding recount fee balance owed and the time for a clerk or the Elections Commission to refund any recount fee overpayment.

Lastly, the amendment also resolves a statutory inconsistency regarding the deadline for a county board of canvassers to meet and begin a recount.

BILL HISTORY

Assembly Amendment 1 was offered by Representative Tusler. On May 9, 2017, the Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections recommended adoption of Assembly Amendment 1 on a vote of Ayes, 7; Noes, 2. The committee then recommended passage of Assembly Bill 153, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 6; Noes, 3.

JKR:KBO:ksm

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LRB-1152/1

JK:klm&ahe

2017 - 2018 LEGISLATURE

2017 ASSEMBLY BILL 153

March 20, 2017 - Introduced by Representatives TUSLER, THIESFELDT, ALLEN, BERNIER, BRANDTJEN, E. BROOKS, R. BROOKS, EDMING, GANNON, HORLACHER, KATZMA, KERKMAN, KREMER, KRUG, KULP, MACCO, MURPHY, MURSAU, OTT, PETERSEN, QUINN, ROHRKASTE, SANFELIPPO, SCHRAA, SKOWRONSKI, SPIROS, STEFFEN, TITTL and WEATHERSTON, cosponsored by Senators LEMAHIEU, CRAIG, KAPENGA, MARKLEIN and STROEBEL. Referred to Committee on Campaigns and Elections.

AN ACT to amend 9.01 (1) (a) 1., 9.01 (1) (ag) 2., 9.01 (1) (ag) 4., 9.01 (1) (ar) 3. and 20.510 (1) (g); and to create 9.01 (1) (a) 2. c. and 9.01 (1) (a) 5. of the statutes; relating to: aggrieved parties petitioning for a recount and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill provides that any candidate voted for at any election who is an aggrieved party or any elector who voted on any referendum question at any election may petition for a recount. The bill defines an "aggrieved party" as any of the following:

1. For an election at which 4,000 or fewer votes are cast for the office that the candidate seeks, a candidate who trails the leading candidate by no more than 40 votes after the official canvass.
2. For an election at which more than 4,000 votes are cast for the office that the candidate seeks, a candidate who trails the leading candidate by no more than 1 percent of the total votes cast for that office after the official canvass.

Current law allows any candidate to petition for a recount regardless of the difference between the votes cast for the petitioner and those cast for the leading candidate. Under current law, and under the bill, if the difference between the votes cast for the petitioner and those cast for the leading candidate is more than 0.25 percent of the total votes cast for the office that the candidates seek, the petitioner must pay a fee equal to the actual cost of performing the recount.

The bill also provides that the actual cost of performing a recount includes the actual cost incurred by the Elections Commission to provide services for performing the recount and allows the commission to recover that cost. In addition, under the bill, a person must file a petition for a recount no later than 5 p.m. on the first business day following the last meeting of the board of canvassers and the county board of canvassers may convene to conduct the recount no later than 9 a.m. on the third day after receiving the order for a recount. Under current law, a person must file a petition for a recount no later than 5 p.m. on the third business day following the last meeting of the board of canvassers and the county board of canvassers may convene to conduct the recount no later than 9 a.m. on the second day after receiving the order for a recount.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 9.01 (1) (a) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

9.01 (1) (a) 1. Any candidate voted for at any election who is an aggrieved party, as determined under subd. 5., or any elector who voted upon any referendum question at any election may petition for a recount. The petitioner shall file a verified petition or petitions with the proper clerk or body under par. (ar) not earlier than the time of completion of the canvass following canvassing of any valid provisional ballots under s. 6.97 (4) and, except as provided in this subdivision, not later than 5 p.m. on the 3rd first business day following the last meeting day of the municipal or county board of canvassers determining the election for that office or on that referendum question following canvassing of all valid provisional ballots or, if more than one board of canvassers makes the determination, not later than 5 p.m. on the 3rd first business day following the last meeting day of the last board of canvassers which makes a determination following canvassing of all valid provisional ballots. If the commission chairperson or chairperson's designee makes the determination for the office or the referendum question, the petitioner shall file the petition not

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earlier than the last meeting day of the last county board of canvassers to make a statement in the election or referendum following canvassing of all valid provisional

ballots and not later than 5 p.m. on the 3rd first business day following the day on which the commission receives the last statement from a county board of canvassers for the election or referendum following canvassing of all valid provisional ballots.

SECTION 2. 9.01 (1) (a) 2. c. of the statutes is created to read:

9.01 (1) (a) 2. c. If the petitioner is a candidate voted for at the election for which the petitioner seeks a recount, that the petitioner is an aggrieved party.

SECTION 3. 9.01 (1) (a) 5. of the statutes is created to read:

9.01 (1) (a) 5. In this paragraph, "aggrieved party" means any of the following:

- a. For an election at which 4,000 or fewer votes are cast for the office that the candidate seeks, a candidate who trails the leading candidate, as defined under par. (ag) 5., by no more than 40 votes, as determined under par. (ag) 5.
- b. For an election at which more than 4,000 votes are cast for the office that the candidate seeks, a candidate who trails the leading candidate, as defined under par. (ag) 5., by no more than 1 percent of the total votes cast for that office, as determined under par. (ag) 5.

SECTION 4. 9.01 (1) (ag) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

9.01 (1) (ag) 2. If subd. 1 does not apply to the difference between the votes cast for the leading candidate and those cast for the petitioner or the difference between the affirmative and negative votes cast upon any referendum question following canvassing of all valid provisional and absentee ballots, the petitioner shall pay a fee equal to the actual cost of performing the recount in each ward for which the petition requests a recount, or in each municipality for which the petition requests a recount

where no wards exist, plus the actual cost incurred by the commission to provide services for performing the recount.

SECTION 5. 9.01 (1) (ag) 4. of the statutes is amended to read:

9.01 (1) (ag) 4. The commission shall deposit all moneys received by it into the account under s. 20.510 (1) (g), and shall pay the fees required for each recount to the county clerks of the counties in which the recount is to be held and shall retain the amount necessary to pay for the actual cost incurred by the commission to provide services for performing the recount. The county clerk shall deposit fees received by him or her with the county treasurer. The municipal clerk shall deposit fees received by him or her with the municipal treasurer.

SECTION 6. 9.01 (1) (ar) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:

9.01 (1) (ar) 3. Whenever a clerk receives a valid petition and any payment under par. (ag) 3., the clerk shall thereupon notify the proper board of canvassers. Whenever the commission receives a valid petition and any payment under par. (ag) 3., the commission shall promptly by certified mail or other expeditious means order the proper county boards of canvassers to commence the recount. County boards of canvassers shall convene no later than 9 a.m. on the second 3rd day after receipt of an order and may adjourn for not more than one day at a time until the recount is completed in the county, except that the commission may permit extension of the time for adjournment. Returns from a recount ordered by the commission shall be transmitted to the office of the commission as soon as possible, but in no case later than 13 days from the date of the order of the commission directing the recount. The commission chairperson or the chairperson's designee may not make a determination in any election if a recount is pending before any county board of canvassers in that election. The commission chairperson or the chairperson's

designee need not recount actual ballots, but shall verify the returns of the county boards of canvassers in making his or her determinations.

SECTION 7. 20.510 (1) (g) of the statutes is amended to read:

20.510 (1) (g) *Recount fees.* The amounts in the schedule to be apportioned to the commission and the county clerks or county board of election commissioners as prescribed in s. 9.01 (1) (ag). All moneys received on account of recount petitions filed with the commission shall be credited to this appropriation account.

(END)

Assembly Bill 153

An Act to amend 9.01 (1) (a) 1., 9.01 (1) (ag) 2., 9.01 (1) (ag) 4., 9.01 (1) (ar) 3. and 20.510 (1) (g); and to create 9.01 (1) (a) 2. c. and 9.01 (1) (a) 5. of the statutes; Relating to aggrieved parties petitioning for a recount and making an appropriation.

Status: Campaigns and Elections

History

Date / House	Action	Journal
3/20/2017 Asm.	Introduced by Representatives Tusler, Thiesfeldt, Allen, Bernier, Brandtjen, E. Brooks, R. Brooks, Edming, Gannon, Horlacher, Katsma, Kerkman, Kremer, Krug, Kulp, Macco, Murphy, Mursau, Ott, Petersen, Quinn, Rohrkaste, Sanfelippo, Schraa, Skowronski, Splros, Steffen, Tiltl and Weatherston; cosponsored by Senators LeMahieu, Craig, Kapenga, Marklein and Stroebel	
3/20/2017 Asm.	Read first time and referred to Committee on Campaigns and Elections	
4/18/2017 Asm.	Fiscal estimate received	
4/18/2017 Asm.	Public hearing held	
4/24/2017 Asm.	Assembly Amendment 1 offered by Representative Tusler	
5/9/2017 Asm.	Executive action taken	

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LRB-2036/1

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2017 - 2018 LEGISLATURE

2017 SENATE BILL 102

March 9, 2017 - Introduced by Senators LEMAHIEU, CRAIG, KAPENGA, MARKLEIN, STROEBEL and VUKMIR, cosponsored by Representatives TUSLER, THIESFELDT, ALLEN, BERNIER, BRANDTJEN, E. BROOKS, R. BROOKS, EDMING, GANNON, HORLACHER, KATZMA, KERKMAN, KREMER, KRUG, KULP, MACCO, MURPHY, MURSAU, OTT, PETERSEN, QUINN, ROHRKASTE, SANFELIPPO, SCHRAA, SKOWRONSKI, SPIOOS, STEFFEN, TITTL and WEATHERSTON. Referred to Committee on Elections and Utilities.

AN ACT to amend 9.01 (1) (a) 1., 9.01 (1) (ag) 2., 9.01 (1) (ag) 3m., 9.01 (1) (ag) 4., 9.01 (1) (ar) 3. and 20.510 (1) (g); and to create 9.01 (1) (a) 2. c. and 9.01 (1) (a) 5. of the statutes; relating to: aggrieved parties petitioning for a recount and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill provides that any candidate voted for at any election who is an aggrieved party or any elector who voted on any referendum question at any election may petition for a recount. The bill defines an "aggrieved party" as any of the following:

1. For an election at which 4,000 or fewer votes are cast for the office that the candidate seeks, a candidate who trails the leading candidate by no more than 40 votes after the official canvass.
2. For an election at which more than 4,000 votes are cast for the office that the candidate seeks, a candidate who trails the leading candidate by no more than 1 percent of the total votes cast for that office after the official canvass.

Current law allows any candidate to petition for a recount regardless of the difference between the votes cast for the petitioner and those cast for the leading candidate. Under current law, and under the bill, if the difference between the votes cast for the petitioner and those cast for the leading candidate is more than 0.25 percent of the total votes cast for the office that the candidates seek, the petitioner must pay a fee equal to the actual cost of performing the recount.

The bill also provides that the actual cost of performing a recount includes the actual cost incurred by the Elections Commission to provide services for performing the recount and allows the commission to recover that cost. In addition, under the bill, a person must file a petition for a recount no later than 5 p.m. on the first business day following the last meeting of the board of canvassers and the county board of canvassers may convene to conduct the recount no later than 9 a.m. on the third day after receiving the order for a recount. Under current law, a person must file a petition for a recount no later than 5 p.m. on the third business day following the last meeting of the board of canvassers and the county board of canvassers may convene to conduct the recount no later than 9 a.m. on the second day after receiving the order for a recount.

Finally, the bill changes the deadline for a petitioner to pay any balance owing toward the fee for the recount from 30 days after the petition is filed to 45 days after the petition is filed. The bill also changes the deadline for the clerk to issue a refund of any overpayment from 30 days after the board of canvassers makes its determination to 45 days after the determination.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 9.01 (1) (a) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

9.01 (1) (a) 1. Any candidate voted for at any election who is an aggrieved party, as determined under subd. 5., or any elector who voted upon any referendum question at any election may petition for a recount. The petitioner shall file a verified petition or petitions with the proper clerk or body under par. (ar) not earlier than the time of completion of the canvass following canvassing of any valid provisional ballots under s. 6.97 (4) and, except as provided in this subdivision, not later than 5 p.m. on the ~~and first~~ first business day following the last meeting day of the municipal or county board of canvassers determining the election for that office or on that referendum question following canvassing of all valid provisional ballots or, if more than one board of canvassers makes the determination, not later than 5 p.m. on the ~~and first~~ first business day following the last meeting day of the last board of canvassers

which makes a determination following canvassing of all valid provisional ballots. If the commission chairperson or chairperson's designee makes the determination for the office or the referendum question, the petitioner shall file the petition not earlier than the last meeting day of the last county board of canvassers to make a statement in the election or referendum following canvassing of all valid provisional ballots and not later than 5 p.m. on the ~~3rd~~ first business day following the day on which the commission receives the last statement from a county board of canvassers for the election or referendum following canvassing of all valid provisional ballots.

SECTION 2. 9.01 (1) (a) 2. c. of the statutes is created to read:

9.01 (1) (a) 2. c. If the petitioner is a candidate voted for at the election for which the petitioner seeks a recount, that the petitioner is an aggrieved party.

SECTION 3. 9.01 (1) (a) 5. of the statutes is created to read:

9.01 (1) (a) 5. In this paragraph, "aggrieved party" means any of the following:

a. For an election at which 4,000 or fewer votes are cast for the office that the candidate seeks, a candidate who trails the leading candidate, as defined under par. (ag) 5., by no more than 40 votes, as determined under par. (ag) 5.

b. For an election at which more than 4,000 votes are cast for the office that the candidate seeks, a candidate who trails the leading candidate, as defined under par. (ag) 5., by no more than 1 percent of the total votes cast for that office, as determined under par. (ag) 5.

SECTION 4. 9.01 (1) (ag) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

9.01 (1) (ag) 2. If subd. 1 does not apply to the difference between the votes cast for the leading candidate and those cast for the petitioner or the difference between the affirmative and negative votes cast upon any referendum question following canvassing of all valid provisional and absentee ballots, the petitioner shall pay a fee

equal to the actual cost of performing the recount in each ward for which the petition requests a recount, or in each municipality for which the petition requests a recount where no wards exist, plus the actual cost incurred by the commission to provide services for performing the recount.

SECTION 5. 9.01 (1) (ag) 3m. of the statutes is amended to read:

9.01 (1) (ag) 3m. The petitioner shall pay any balance owing toward the fee due under subd. 2. within ~~30~~ 45 days after the clerk or body receiving the petition provides the petitioner with a written statement of the amount due. If the petitioner has overpaid the fee due under subd. 2, the clerk or body receiving the petition shall refund the amount overpaid within ~~30~~ 45 days after the board of canvassers makes its determination in the recount. If, as a result of the recount, the petitioner is the leading candidate, or the majority of votes cast on the referendum changes from affirmative to negative or from negative to affirmative, the clerk or body receiving the petition shall refund the amount paid within ~~30~~ 45 days after the board of canvassers makes its determination in the recount. For purposes of this subdivision, a petitioner has not overpaid the fees due under subd. 2., and is therefore not entitled to a refund under this subdivision, if the recount results in a difference in the votes cast that is below the threshold for paying the fee under subd. 2.

SECTION 6. 9.01 (1) (ag) 4. of the statutes is amended to read:

9.01 (1) (ag) 4. The commission shall deposit all moneys received by it into the account under s. 20.510 (1) (g), and shall pay the fees required for each recount to the county clerks of the counties in which the recount is to be held and shall retain the amount necessary to pay for the actual cost incurred by the commission to provide services for performing the recount. The county clerk shall deposit fees received by

him or her with the county treasurer. The municipal clerk shall deposit fees received by him or her with the municipal treasurer.

SECTION 7. 9.01 (1) (ar) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:

9.01 (1) (ar) 3. Whenever a clerk receives a valid petition and any payment under par. (ag) 3., the clerk shall thereupon notify the proper board of canvassers. Whenever the commission receives a valid petition and any payment under par. (ag) 3., the commission shall promptly by certified mail or other expeditious means order the proper county boards of canvassers to commence the recount. County boards of canvassers shall convene no later than 9 a.m. on the ~~second~~ 3rd day after receipt of an order and may adjourn for not more than one day at a time until the recount is completed in the county, except that the commission may permit extension of the time for adjournment. Returns from a recount ordered by the commission shall be transmitted to the office of the commission as soon as possible, but in no case later than 13 days from the date of the order of the commission directing the recount. The commission chairperson or the chairperson's designee may not make a determination in any election if a recount is pending before any county board of canvassers in that election. The commission chairperson or the chairperson's designee need not recount actual ballots, but shall verify the returns of the county boards of canvassers in making his or her determinations.

SECTION 8. 20.510 (1) (g) of the statutes is amended to read:

20.510 (1) (g) *Recount fees.* The amounts in the schedule to be apportioned to the commission and the county clerks or county board of election commissioners as prescribed in s. 9.01 (1) (ag). All moneys received on account of recount petitions filed with the commission shall be credited to this appropriation account.

(END)

Senate Bill 102

An Act to amend 9.01 (1) (a) 1., 9.01 (1) (ag) 2., 9.01 (1) (ag) 3m., 9.01 (1) (ag) 4., 9.01 (1) (ar) 3. and 20.510 (1) (g); and to create 9.01 (1) (a) 2. c. and 9.01 (1) (a) 5. of the statutes; Relating to: aggrieved parties petitioning for a recount and making an appropriation.

Status: Available for Scheduling

History

Date / House	Action	Journal
3/9/2017 Sen.	Introduced by Senators LeMahieu, Craig, Kapenga, Marklein, Stroebel and Vukmir; cosponsored by Representatives Tusler, Thiesfeldt, Allen, Bernier, Brandtjen, E. Brooks, R. Brooks, Edming, Gannon, Horlacher, Katsma, Kerkman, Kremer, Krug, Kulp, Macco, Murphy, Mursau, Ott, Petersen, Quinn, Rohrkaste, Sanfellppo, Schraa, Skowronski, Spiros, Steffen, Tittl and Weatherston	
3/9/2017 Sen.	Read first time and referred to Committee on Elections and Utilities	
4/5/2017 Sen.	Public hearing held	
4/18/2017 Sen.	Senate Amendment 1 offered by Senator LeMahieu	
4/19/2017 Sen.	Executive action taken	
4/20/2017 Sen.	Report adoption of Senate Amendment 1 recommended by Committee on Elections and Utilities, Ayes 3, Noes 2	
4/20/2017 Sen.	Report passage as amended recommended by Committee on Elections and Utilities, Ayes 3, Noes 2	
4/20/2017 Sen.	Available for scheduling	
4/26/2017 Sen.	Fiscal estimate received	



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ANALYSIS

Trump budget weighs in at \$4.1 trillion

President Trump's FY18 budget released May 23 outlines the administration's \$4.1 trillion spending proposal, with discretionary spending levels set at \$1.151 trillion and mandatory spending levels at \$2.943 trillion. The discretionary spending limits adhere to the budget caps set in the Budget Control Act (P.L. 112-25).

The \$1.151 trillion in discretionary spending includes \$54 billion in increased spending on national defense, with equal reductions in non-defense discretionary spending. The budget also includes several proposed changes that would reduce spending on mandatory items.

See BUDGET page 2

Trump budget proposes realignment of federal spending

From BUDGET page 1

Among the most significant cuts made under the budget proposal is a major revision of the Medicaid program that would institute block grants or a per-capita cap on federal Medicaid expenditures. This proposal would reduce the federal government's contribution to the program by roughly \$600 billion over the next decade. The House's AHCA bill would also cut Medicaid by another \$800 billion.

Other reductions include major cuts to several federal agencies: the Environmental

Protection Agency (30 percent); Department of Agriculture (21 percent); the Department of Labor (20 percent); Department of Commerce (15 percent); Department of Transportation (17 percent); and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (12 percent cut).

County programs would be hit

Certain programs on which counties and their residents rely would also be reduced or eliminated. The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), which helps counties improve economic development and small business growth, would be eliminated.

Likewise, the HOME Investment Program, which helps low-income individuals obtain housing, would be eliminated. Also eliminated are USDA grants to expand broadband access to rural areas, the TIGER transportation grant program, and programs to provide heating and energy assistance to low-income families.

Other programs that are priorities for counties would be reduced, including a \$68 million cut to the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) program and reductions in multiple programs that provide grants for local law enforcement. The two largest drivers of America's debt, Medicare and Social Security, are left largely untouched in the budget request.

A few agencies would see funding increases in FY18 under the president's budget request: the Department of Defense (8 percent increase), the Department of Homeland

America's counties are concerned that this proposed budget largely abdicates the federal role in the federal-state-local intergovernmental partnership that is essential to addressing the nation's most pressing challenges.

Security (7 percent) and the Department of Veterans Affairs (6 percent).

The administration touts the proposal as one that will reduce deficits and lead to a balanced federal budget, projecting a small budget surplus by 2027. The White House banks on significant economic growth generated by several policy changes in the budget proposal, including the suggested reductions in discretionary federal spending.

In calculating the economic growth and revenue projections, the White House assumes comprehensive tax reform will be completed, the Affordable Care Act and its accompanying taxes and regulations will be repealed, and Congress and the administration will continue to roll back many other regulations from the Obama Administration. However, critics have pointed out that the administration's budget appears to "double count" the impact of

economic growth on the budget, claiming it will both offset lower tax rates and help pay down the deficit.

Governmental responsibilities are shared among federal, state and local partners, as they are the fundamental components of a broader national interest in serving the country's citizens. The nation's 3,069 counties play a key role in administering federal programs and services within their local communities, including building and maintaining public infrastructure, providing law enforcement and public safety services and protecting the public's health and well-being. While the policies and programs established by the federal government are intended to guide and coordinate efforts, counties often are the implementers, and even co-regulators, at the local level.

America's counties are concerned that this proposed budget largely abdicates the federal role in the federal-state-local intergovernmental partnership that is essential to addressing the nation's most pressing challenges. The scale of the proposed discretionary and mandatory cuts would far outpace the ability of state and local governments to backfill this funding and support local needs, which could force state and local governments to either raise taxes at an unprecedented level or simply turn their backs on those who truly require public assistance. That said, the president's annual budget is largely a statement of principles and an offering of ideas, and there is effectively no

chance Congress will pass it without significant revisions.

Each year, the president submits a budget proposal to Congress, which begins the annual appropriations process. Upon receiving this request, the House and Senate Budget Committees are charged with developing and reporting a budget resolution to set the total amount of money congressional Appropriations Committees may spend during the fiscal year. The committees must then complete 12 individual appropriations measures to allocate money to each federal agency and program, which, if passed, are signed by the president and enacted into law.

However, in recent years, as battles over federal spending have intensified, Congress has been unable to enact stand-alone appropriations bills through the regular appropriations process, instead relying on omnibus measures, which combine all 12 bills, or continuing resolutions that fund the government at prior-year levels. It remains to be seen if Congress will be forced to take the same approach this year, or if they will succeed in returning to "regular order" and passing each appropriations bill individually.

NACo will continue to work closely with appropriations leaders in both the House and Senate to ensure that the needs and interests of counties are reflected in the final FY 2018 appropriations measures, and we will continue driving home the importance of the federal-state-local partnership in serving our local communities. **GN**

SNAP/STATS

STATISTICS ON LIBRARY SERVICES

- 2014 rankings based on size of population served, size of library collection, circulation and number of visits to library.

Source: American Library Association, 2014 rankings based on size of population served, size of library collection, circulation and number of visits to library.

Profiles in Service will resume in the June 12 issue.

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