

**NOTICE OF REFERENDUM ELECTION
NOVEMBER 8, 2022**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at an election to be held in the County of Washington, State of Wisconsin, on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, the following resolution will be submitted to a vote of the people:

**2021 RESOLUTION 87
Advisory Resolution Supporting Uniformity in Election Laws
Throughout the State of Wisconsin**

WHEREAS, when one of our Nation's greatest leaders, President Abraham Lincoln once said, "elections are for the people," he wisely recognized that free and fair elections are the foundation of every healthy democracy, ensuring that government authority derives its power from the will of the people; and

WHEREAS, to be truly free and fair, elections must be conducted uniformly, impartially, and without interference from those who would seek to manipulate the process for their own gain; and;

WHEREAS, a lack of uniformity in the application of Wisconsin's elections laws during the 2020 elections undermined the people's confidence in the outcome of elections held across Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, examples of this lack of uniformity include the then-mayor of Milwaukee, in April 2020, closing all but five (5) polling places in the City of Milwaukee which has the largest minority voting population in the state while at the same time the City of Madison had sixty (60) locations open, Governor Tony Evers attempting to shut down in-person voting less than 24-hours before the polls opened in April 2020 until his illegal order was thrown out by the Supreme Court of Wisconsin, Democracy in the Park where the City of Madison had poll workers at every community park, neighborhood park, and mini park to assist voters and collect ballots in an insecure manner, Failure to purge voter rolls in Wisconsin, and the dumping of \$6 million dollars from a foundation funded by Mark Zuckerberg into Wisconsin's five (5) largest cities to "support" election administration, and the inconsistent distribution and processing of absentee ballots across the state; and

WHEREAS, maneuvers such as these erode the people's confidence in our sacred system of elections; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Constitution provides for uniformity in taxation and in the enactment of general laws by the legislature but not in voting laws; and

WHEREAS, an amendment to the Wisconsin Constitution requiring uniformity in the administration of elections held in Wisconsin is necessary to protect our democracy and preserve our fundamental right to vote so that all voters are treated the same and so that our election laws are reliable and predictable; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of Wisconsin cannot veto a Constitutional amendment passed by the Legislature;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Washington County Board of Supervisors does hereby approve the following question be placed on the November 8, 2022 ballot as an advisory referendum:

Question: Should the Wisconsin Legislature prepare and place on the statewide ballot a Constitutional Amendment requiring that election administration, access to ballots, and counting of ballots be nearly uniform as practicable?

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Attorney is directed to prepare a Notice of Referendum, including the date of the referendum, the entire text of the question, as well as an explanatory statement of the effect if either a yes or no vote.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution and the Referendum be filed with the Washington County Clerk no later than 70 days prior to the November 8, 2022 election, at which the Question will appear on the ballot.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Washington County Clerk shall send the results of the Referendum to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Counties Association, all Wisconsin County Boards, and to all local members of the Wisconsin Legislature.

Should the Wisconsin Legislature prepare and place on the statewide ballot a Constitutional Amendment requiring that election administration, access to ballots, and counting of ballots be nearly uniform as practicable?

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT AND EFFECT OF VOTE

The referendum election ballot will ask electors to vote "yes" or "no" on the referendum election question as set forth above.

A "yes" vote on the question means that you support legislation requiring that election administration, access to ballots, and counting of ballots be nearly uniform as practicable; and therefore, approve the County Board's adoption of 2021 Resolution 87.

A "no" vote on the question means that you oppose legislation requiring that election administration, access to ballots, and counting of ballots be nearly uniform as practicable; and therefore, disapprove the County Board's adoption of 2021 Resolution 87.

Ashley A. Reichert, Washington County Clerk
432 E. Washington St.
West Bend, WI 53095