

KENOSHA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Resolution No. _____

Subject:			
A Resolution to Conduct a Countywide Advisory Referendum on the Creation of a Non-partisan Procedure for the Preparation of Legislative and Congressional Redistricting Plans and Maps			
Original	Corrected	2nd Correction	Resubmitted
Date Submitted:		Date Resubmitted:	
Submitted By: Supervisors John Franco and Andy Berg and the Legislative Committee			
Fiscal Note Attached		Legal Note Attached	
Prepared By: Supervisor John Franco		Signature:	

WHEREAS, the Kenosha County Board of Supervisors on August, 17, 2017 passed a resolution calling for nonpartisan legislative and congressional redistricting maps; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article IV, Section 3 of the Wisconsin Constitution, the Wisconsin Legislature is directed to redistrict state legislative districts “according to the number of inhabitants” at its next session following the decennial federal census. The legislature also reapportions U. S. congressional districts at the same interval pursuant to federal law; and

WHEREAS, recent polls indicate that as many as 72% of Wisconsin voters are concerned about the practice of partisan redistricting by whichever party holds the majority, because it may stifle political participation and competition, discourage collaboration and compromise, and lack the fairness necessary to our democratic process, by undermining the principle of one person one vote.

WHEREAS, the current procedure allows the legislature of the majority party to prepare redistricting plans and maps that may result in unfair partisan representation, allowing the legislature to choose its voters rather than the voters choosing their representatives, which is commonly called gerrymandering.

WHEREAS, the U.S. Supreme Court has refused to rule on several high profile state gerrymandering cases, including one in Wisconsin and, as a result, has left this issue to be determined by state legislatures and courts.

WHEREAS, 50 Wisconsin counties have passed resolutions in support of nonpartisan redistricting, including 8 counties that have also passed county wide referendums.

WHEREAS, Governor Evers in his most recent State of the State Address is moving forward with an executive order to address the problem of gerrymandering with a non-partisan commission in order to produce a “Peoples Map” that will be submitted to the legislature next year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kenosha County Board of Supervisors, in legal session assembled does hereby approve that the following question be placed on the November 3rd, 2020 ballot as an advisory referendum question. Question: **Should the Wisconsin legislature create a nonpartisan procedure for the preparation of state legislative and U.S. congressional district maps? YES _____ NO _____**; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Corporation Counsel prepare a Notice of Referendum to be published by the Kenosha County Clerk in accordance with statutory requirement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution and the referendum shall be filed with Kenosha County Clerk no later than 70 days prior to the November 3rd, 2020 election at which the question will appear on the ballot; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this ballot referendum be forwarded to Kenosha County’s legislative delegation, all other Wisconsin counties, the Wisconsin Counties Association and Governor Evers.

Respectfully submitted at Kenosha County, Wisconsin, this ___ day of _____, 2020.

John Franco

Andy Berg

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE:

Aye Nay Abstain Excused

Gabe Nudo, Chair

Andy Berg, Vice Chair

Boyd Frederick

John Franco

Mark Norigian

Daniel Gaschke

Amy Maurer