RESOLUTION

CREATING A NONPARTISAN PROCEDURE FOR THE PREPARATION OF LEGISLATIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING PLANS-

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

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

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

WHEREAS, the 2011 redistricting process to draw the maps, and subsequent litigation contesting those maps, cost the taxpayers of the State of Wisconsin nearly $1.9 million; and

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

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

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Eau Claire County Board of Supervisors insists upon the creation of a nonpartisan procedure for the preparation of legislative and congressional redistricting plans.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a nonpartisan procedure promotes accountability, transparency and prohibits the consideration of voting patterns, party information and incumbent’s residence information or demographic information in drawing the district maps, except as necessary to ensure minority participation as required by the U.S. Constitution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Eau Claire County Board of Supervisors directs the county clerk to forward this resolution to the governor, assembly members and senators representing Eau Claire County and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

ADOPTED: June 18, 2019

Janet K. Loomis
County Clerk