Resolution No. 22-07/17
Supporting Proposed Legislation Relating to Election Recounts

Moved/Sponsored by: Executive Committee

WHEREAS, after the 2016 general election, a Presidential candidate that lost the election by over 1.3 million votes and only received 1% of the total votes petitioned for and initiated a full statewide recount; and,

WHEREAS, in reaction to that recount, a Recount Reform Bill (AB 153 and SB 102) was introduced in the Wisconsin Legislature; and,

WHEREAS, the Recount Reform Bill’s proposed changes include:

- Only aggrieved parties can petition for a recount. An aggrieved party is a candidate that is within 1% of the winning candidate in an election with over 4,000 votes or within 40 votes in a race under 4,000 votes.
- Wisconsin Elections Commission will be reimbursed for any costs incurred in a recount.
- Extends the time to submit recount costs from 30 to 45 days.
- Shortens the recount petition deadline by two days.
- Gives the County Board of Canvassers an additional day to begin their recount.

WHEREAS, the Recount Reform Bill does not affect Wisconsin’s free recount margin of 0.25%.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Walworth County Board of Supervisors hereby supports only the following portions of the Recount Reform Bill:

- Wisconsin Elections Commission will be reimbursed for any costs incurred in a recount;
- Extends the time to submit recount costs from 30 to 45 days;
- Gives the County Board of Canvassers an additional day to begin their recount.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that provided taxpayers are reimbursed, no candidate should be denied the right to request a recount regardless of the margin of loss.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Walworth County Board of Supervisors directs the County Clerk to forward a copy of this resolution to Governor Walker, State Legislators representing Walworth County and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

Nancy Russell
County Board Chair

Kimberly S. Bushey
County Clerk

County Board Meeting Date: July 11, 2017
Policy and Fiscal Note  
Resolution No. 22-07/17

I. **Title:** Supporting Proposed Legislation Relating to Election Recounts

II. **Purpose and Policy Impact Statement:** The purpose of this advisory resolution is to support the following proposed changes under the Recount Reform Bills:

- Wisconsin Elections Commission will be reimbursed for any costs incurred in a recount;
- Extends the time to submit recount costs from 30 to 45 days;
- Gives the County Board of Canvassers an additional day to begin their recount.

III. **Budget and Fiscal Impact:** Passage of this resolution will have no fiscal impact on the county budget.

IV. **Referred to the following standing committees for consideration and date of referral:**

   Committee: Executive Committee  
   Meeting Date: June 19, 2017

   Vote: 5-0

   County Board Meeting Date: July 11, 2017

Policy and fiscal note has been reviewed and approved as an accurate statement of the probable policy and fiscal impacts associated with passage of the attached resolution.

David A. Bretl  
County Administrator/Corporation Counsel

Nicole Andersen  
Deputy County Administrator - Finance