RESOLUTION SUPPORTING CREATION OF A NONPARTISAN PROCEDURE FOR THE PREPARATION OF LEGISLATIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING PLANS

TO THE MANITOWOC COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

1. WHEREAS, under the Wisconsin constitution, the legislature is directed to redistrict legislative districts according to the number of inhabitants at its next session following the decennial federal census by the majority party; and

2. WHEREAS, at the same interval, the legislature also reapportions congressional districts pursuant to federal law; and

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

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

5. WHEREAS, the 2011 process to draw the maps and fight litigation contesting those maps cost taxpayers nearly $1.9 million; and

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

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

8. WHEREAS, Manitowoc County has created supervisory districts in a nonpartisan manner while balancing the interests of multiple parties and believes that its approach has served the citizens of Manitowoc County very well;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Manitowoc County Board of Supervisors supports the creation of a nonpartisan procedure for the preparation of legislative and congressional redistricting plans; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Manitowoc County Board of Supervisors desires that any procedure created promotes accountability and transparency and prohibits the consideration of voting patterns, party information, and incumbents' residence information or demographic information in drawing the maps, except as necessary to ensure minority participation as required by the United States Constitution; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Manitowoc County Board of Supervisors directs
the Manitowoc County Clerk to send a copy of this resolution to our State Legislators and to
Governor Scott Walker.

Dated this 30th day of October 2017.

Respectfully submitted by the
Executive Committee

Jim Brey, Chair

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

FISCAL NOTE: Reviewed and approved by Comptroller.

LEGAL NOTE: Reviewed and approved as to form by Corporation Counsel.

I respect the prerogative of the members of the Manitowoc County Board of
Supervisors to voice their opinions on legislative issues. Therefore, it is
my practice to neither approve nor veto a legislative policy resolution that
has been enacted by the County Board in order to allow the County Board,
acting as the legislative branch of county government, to freely express its
sentiment on legislative and public policy issues or to request action by a
governmental entity or both.

Bob Ziegelbauer, County Executive 10/31/17

(Date)
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Res #1 Passed (19 Y - 2 N - 0 A - 4 Absent) Majority Vote

No. 2017/2018 - 59
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