



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

---

JOSEPH J. CZARNEZKI • COUNTY CLERK

**MEMO**

**DATE:** July 30, 2014  
**TO:** The Honorable County Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Joseph J. Czarnezki, County Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** Vetoed File Returned

The County Executive has returned to my office the following file:

**File No. 14-522** – A resolution providing for an advisory referendum on the November 4, 2014, election ballot on whether Milwaukee County voters support increasing the State minimum wage to \$10.10 per hour.

This resolution was adopted by a vote of 13 ayes – 4 noes at your meeting of June 26, 2014.

The County Executive has vetoed this resolution and attached is a copy of his veto message wherein he states his objection.

This matter is now before your honorable body.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph J. Czarnezki".

Joseph J. Czarnezki, County Clerk



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Chris Abele

MILWAUKEE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DATE: July 29, 2014

TO: The Honorable Milwaukee Board of Supervisors

FROM: Chris Abele, Milwaukee County Executive

RE: Veto of County Board File No. 14-522, a resolution putting a non-binding, advisory referendum question on the November 4, 2014 ballot asking voters if they support increasing the state minimum wage to \$10.10 per hour.

---

I am vetoing County Board File No. 14-522 pursuant to the authority granted to me by Article IV, Section 23(a) of the Wisconsin Constitution and Section 59.17(6) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

The County Board adopted a resolution on June 26, 2014 putting a non-binding, advisory referendum question on the November 4, 2014 ballot asking voters if they support increasing the state minimum wage to \$10.10 per hour.

For some time, I have been supportive of a state raise in minimum wage to \$10.10 an hour, as well as the President's proposed federal minimum wage at the same level. To try to make that a reality I've been talking with state and federal leaders, including productive conversations earlier this year with Senator Tammy Baldwin's staff, Senator Ron Johnson and Representatives Gwen Moore, Paul Ryan and Tom Petri. As you would expect, Senator Baldwin and Congresswoman Moore are fully supportive of raising the wage. The Republican members of the Wisconsin caucus did not make any promises, but it is an important start to what I believe will be an on-going dialogue. It is also important to note that these efforts do not cost taxpayers any extra money.

As policymakers, one of our most important roles is to prioritize how our limited tax dollars are spent. The Comptroller's Office estimates putting this referendum on the ballot will cost \$25,000 to \$40,000 and will require us to take that money from the contingency fund. This referendum, coupled with the three others the Board has approved could cost taxpayers as much as \$160,000.

In the past, some Supervisors have questioned the legitimacy of the extra cost of referendum questions. I'll defer to the Comptroller and Election Commission for their estimate but it is my understanding that every question put on the ballot has a cost for ink, increasing the size of the paper, programming voting machines and required advertising and voter awareness.

MILWAUKEE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 901 NORTH 9<sup>TH</sup> STREET, ROOM 306, MILWAUKEE, WI 53233  
TELEPHONE (414) 278-4211 FAX (414) 223-1375 COUNTY.MILWAUKEE.GOV/COUNTYEXECUTIVE

Like you, I believe an open and fair democracy is key to a strong and sustainable government. However, I believe there are less costly and more productive ways to move the debate forward.

Much like the Citizens United referendum, I am worried that we are spending much needed tax dollars on a question that we already know the outcome. A recent poll conducted by UWM shows broad support for raising the minimum wage. According to the poll, 76% of registered voters support raising the state's minimum wage. That poll is another strong indicator of what citizens think and it does not require us to dip into our emergency fund to pay for it. If Supervisors were to pass a resolution stating their opposition to Citizens United or supportive of raising the minimum wage or supportive of expanding BadgerCare, I would happily sign it and do a joint press release. I think that would make as a compelling a statement as a non-binding referendum without costing taxpayers \$40,000.

I know Supervisors have the best intentions when they introduce these resolutions. However, spending down our contingency fund on non-essential items when we are looking at a shrinking surplus this year and a predicted structural deficit of \$31.9 million in 2015 is not the best use of taxpayer money.

I urge you to sustain this veto.

MILWAUKEE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 901 NORTH 9<sup>TH</sup> STREET, ROOM 306, MILWAUKEE, WI 53233  
TELEPHONE (414) 278-4211 FAX (414) 223-1375 COUNTY.MILWAUKEE.GOV/COUNTYEXECUTIVE



# Milwaukee County

County Courthouse  
901 N. 9th Street, Rm.  
105  
Milwaukee, WI 53233

## Signature Copy

Resolution: 14-522

File Number: 14-522

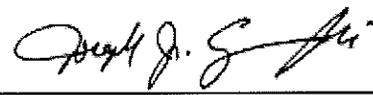
A resolution providing for an advisory referendum on the November 4, 2014, election ballot on whether Milwaukee County voters support increasing the State minimum wage to \$10.10 per hour.

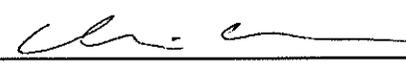
The attached resolution or ordinance was adopted by the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors on 6/26/2014 by the following vote:

**Ayes:** 13 Bowen, Broderick, Cullen, Haas, Johnson Jr., Jursik, Lipscomb Sr., Mayo Sr., Rainey, Romo West, Staskunas, Weishan Jr., and Dimitrijevic

**Noes:** 4 Alexander, Borkowski, Schmitt, and Taylor

Certification to County  Date JUN 26 2014  
 Board Passage Marina Dimitrijevic

 Date JUN 26 2014  
 Joseph J. Czarnezki

**VETO**  
 I ~~approve~~ the attached  Date 7/29/14  
 resolution or ordinance. Chris Abele

Received by County \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clerk's Office Joseph J. Czarnezki

Certification of \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Publication Joseph J. Czarnezki

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44

JUN 26 2014

ADOPTED

13-4

(ITEM ) A resolution by Supervisors Rainey, Dimitrijevic, Broderick, and Johnson, Jr., providing for an advisory referendum on the November 4, 2014, election ballot on whether Milwaukee County voters support increasing the State minimum wage to \$10.10 per hour, by recommending adoption of the following:

**A RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the challenge of income inequality defines our times, as noted by public figures ranging from Pope Francis to President Obama; and

WHEREAS, average wage levels for American workers have been stagnant for decades and wage levels for the lowest-paid workers declined, while economists predict that by the year 2020, nearly half of all employment in America will be found in low-wage sector jobs that do not pay a living wage; and

WHEREAS, the current minimum wage in Wisconsin is \$7.25 per hour and a person making minimum wage, working forty hours a week, earns only \$290 per week or \$15,080 per year, but the current Federal Poverty Level Guideline for a family of four is \$23,850 per year; and

WHEREAS, in Milwaukee County the current costs for a family with one parent and one child, calculated by the Economic Policy Institute, are \$51,695 annually, and include only items to ensure a secure, yet modest living standard, including such basic necessities as health care and child care; and

WHEREAS, the annual report from the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Institute for Research on Poverty found that many of the jobs being created do not pay a living wage and in Milwaukee County the poverty level rose from 17.8 percent in 2011 to 18.8 percent in 2012; and

WHEREAS, according to the United States Census Bureau, in 2012 the State of Wisconsin poverty rate was 13.2 percent while in Milwaukee County the rate was much higher at 22.3 percent and, even more disturbingly, the child poverty rate in Milwaukee County was 32.4 percent; and

WHEREAS, had the minimum wage increased with inflation since 1968, it would be nearly \$11 per hour today, and had it grown with increases in productivity, or the ability of our economy to generate greater wealth, it would be roughly \$20 per hour; and

WHEREAS, as of January 1, 2014, twenty-one states and the District of Columbia have minimum wage rates above the federally mandated minimum wage, while dozens of states and cities are considering increasing their minimum wage rate to \$10.10 per hour,

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
*Paul Barry*  
CORPORATION COUNSEL

45 \$11.50 per hour, \$12.25 per hour, and as high as \$15 per hour, and some states and cities  
46 already have done so since the start of the calendar year; and

47

48 WHEREAS, the minimum wage sets a basic standard for income from work, setting  
49 public policy in line with the basic values that anyone who works should be able to  
50 support themselves and their families without being forced to rely on public assistance  
51 programs, and that business profits should not rely upon public subsidies for firms that pay  
52 workers poverty-level wages; and

53

54 WHEREAS, as reported by the Economic Policy Institute, more than 600  
55 economists, including Nobel laureates, signed a letter to the President and other political  
56 figures stating that there is little to no effect on joblessness of minimum wage workers  
57 when the minimum wage is raised, and in fact, many times there is a small stimulative  
58 effect on the economy as low-wage earners go out and spend their extra earnings on  
59 everyday necessities; and

60

61 WHEREAS, on March 20, 2014, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors  
62 adopted Resolution File No. 13-955 (vote 12-6), a living wage ordinance requiring many  
63 businesses contracting with Milwaukee County to pay a minimum hourly wage rate equal  
64 to 100 percent of the poverty income level for a family of four, currently \$11.47 an hour;  
65 and

66

67 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County voters should have the opportunity to be heard on  
68 whether they support raising the minimum wage to \$10.10 an hour; now, therefore,

69

70 BE IT RESOLVED, by the County Board of Supervisors of Milwaukee County,  
71 Wisconsin, as follows:

72

73 Section 1. Referendum Election. The County Clerk is hereby directed to call an  
74 advisory referendum election to be held in the County at the regularly scheduled election  
75 to be held on November 4, 2014, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of  
76 the County the proposition of whether the State of Wisconsin should raise the minimum  
77 wage to \$10.10 per hour. The referendum shall be held, noticed, and conducted following  
78 the procedures set forth in Section 59.52(25) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

79

80 Section 2. Official Referendum Ballot Form. The ballot to be used at the  
81 referendum election shall be prepared in accordance with the provisions of Sections  
82 5.64(2) and 7.08(1)(a) of the Wisconsin Statutes. The ballot shall be substantially in the  
83 form attached hereto as Exhibit A.

84

85

86

87  
88  
89  
90  
91  
92  
93  
94  
95  
96  
97  
98  
99  
100  
101  
102  
103  
104  
105  
106  
107  
108  
109  
110  
111  
112  
113  
114  
115

**EXHIBIT A**

OFFICIAL REFERENDUM BALLOT

November 4, 2014

NOTICE TO ELECTORS: THIS BALLOT MAY BE INVALID UNLESS INITIALED BY TWO (2) ELECTION INSPECTORS. IF CAST AS AN ABSENTEE BALLOT, THE BALLOT MUST BEAR THE INITIALS OF THE MUNICIPAL CLERK OR DEPUTY CLERK.

If you desire to vote on the question, make a cross (X) in the square beneath the question after "YES" if in favor of the question or make a cross (X) in the square after "NO" if opposed to the question.

---

**ADVISORY REFERENDUM**

Should the State of Wisconsin increase the minimum wage to \$10.10 an hour?

YES

NO

---

ag  
06/17/2014  
H:\Shared\COMCLERK\Committees\2014\Jun\JSGS\Resolutions\14-522.doc

DATE: May 16, 2014

Original Fiscal Note

Substitute Fiscal Note

**SUBJECT:** A resolution calling for an advisory referendum on whether the State of Wisconsin should increase the minimum wage from \$7.25 an hour to \$10.10 an hour.

**FISCAL EFFECT:**

- No Direct County Fiscal Impact
- Existing Staff Time Required
- Increase Operating Expenditures  
(If checked, check one of two boxes below)
  - Absorbed Within Agency's Budget
  - Not Absorbed Within Agency's Budget
- Decrease Operating Expenditures
- Increase Operating Revenues
- Decrease Operating Revenues
- Increase Capital Expenditures
- Decrease Capital Expenditures
- Increase Capital Revenues
- Decrease Capital Revenues
- Use of contingent funds

Indicate below the dollar change from budget for any submission that is projected to result in increased/decreased expenditures or revenues in the current year.

	Expenditure or Revenue Category	Current Year	Subsequent Year
<b>Operating Budget</b>	Expenditure	\$25,000 to \$40,000	\$0
	Revenue	\$0	\$0
	Net Cost	\$25,000 to \$40,000	\$0
<b>Capital Improvement Budget</b>	Expenditure	\$0	\$0
	Revenue	\$0	\$0
	Net Cost	\$0	\$0

## DESCRIPTION OF FISCAL EFFECT

In the space below, you must provide the following information. Attach additional pages if necessary.

- A. Briefly describe the nature of the action that is being requested or proposed, and the new or changed conditions that would occur if the request or proposal were adopted.
- B. State the direct costs, savings or anticipated revenues associated with the requested or proposed action in the current budget year and how those were calculated.<sup>1</sup> If annualized or subsequent year fiscal impacts are substantially different from current year impacts, then those shall be stated as well. In addition, cite any one-time costs associated with the action, the source of any new or additional revenues (e.g. State, Federal, user fee or private donation), the use of contingent funds, and/or the use of budgeted appropriations due to surpluses or change in purpose required to fund the requested action.
- C. Discuss the budgetary impacts associated with the proposed action in the current year. A statement that sufficient funds are budgeted should be justified with information regarding the amount of budgeted appropriations in the relevant account and whether that amount is sufficient to offset the cost of the requested action. If relevant, discussion of budgetary impacts in subsequent years also shall be discussed. Subsequent year fiscal impacts shall be noted for the entire period in which the requested or proposed action would be implemented when it is reasonable to do so (i.e. a five-year lease agreement shall specify the costs/savings for each of the five years in question). Otherwise, impacts associated with the existing and subsequent budget years should be cited.
- D. Describe any assumptions or interpretations that were utilized to provide the information on this form.

- A. Approval of this resolution calls for an advisory referendum to be held on November 4, 2014, asking voters: Should the State of Wisconsin raise the minimum wage to \$10.10 an hour?
- B. Based on information provided and confirmed by Election Commission staff, this fiscal note provides an estimated range of \$25,000 to \$40,000 for the cost of adding an advisory referendum question to the November 4, 2014, County-wide ballot. This estimated cost range is based on the cost of printing ballots, programming election machines and the required newspaper advertising related to the referendum question. Milwaukee County, according to Election Commission staff, is responsible for all costs related to federal, state and county contests. A precise cost calculation is not possible since many factors influence the actual cost of each contest (i.e. election or referendum question) including ballot printing (actual size of ballot, number of columns and whether it is one or two-sided), election machine programming and advertising expenses.

The County's actual cost for holding an advisory referendum during the spring 2008 general election, according to Election Commission staff calculations, was \$17,216. This included \$4,754 for ballots, \$3,569 for election machine programming and \$8,893 in required newspaper advertising. (Referendums have additional advertising requirements in addition to the usual ballot advertising requirement.)

---

<sup>1</sup> If it is assumed that there is no fiscal impact associated with the requested action, then an explanatory statement that justifies that conclusion shall be provided. If precise impacts cannot be calculated, then an estimate or range should be provided.

<sup>2</sup> Community Business Development Partners' review is required on all professional service and public work construction contracts.

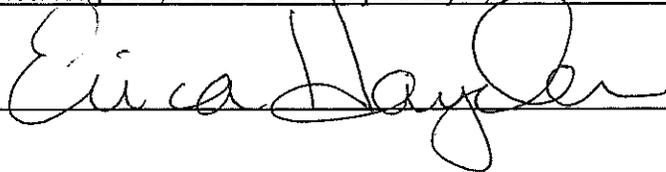
The County's actual cost for holding and advisory referendum during the fall 2008 general election, according to Election Commission staff calculations, was \$31,795. This included \$17,000 for ballots, \$3,495 for election machine programming and \$11,300 for advertising.

In an estimate prepared in August 2012 for a proposed referendum during the general election scheduled for November 6, 2012, Election Commission staff projected the cost of the advisory referendum at \$37,484. The increase from the actual 2008 referendum was largely due to an increase in the cost of ballot printing.

- C. The budgetary impact is expected to increase the expenditures of the Election Commission by \$25,000 to \$40,000 due to the addition of the advisory referendum. Election Commission staff, historically, have sought fund transfers from the Appropriation for Contingencies for any costs that could not be absorbed within their Adopted Budget. These fund transfers are typically requested after the election is held and actual election costs can be determined. The fiscal note anticipated that an appropriation fund transfer from Org. Unit. 1940 – Countywide non-departmentals, Account 1945 – Appropriation for Contingencies, would be necessary at a later date to cover the additional cost of the proposed referendum that was not contemplated when the 2014 Adopted Budget was approved.
- D. The assumptions and interpretations used for this fiscal note were historical referendum costs and Election Commission professional staff assumptions of current costs for printing, programming and advertising. Please note that the Election Commission, by law, must receive the notice of a referendum for the November 4, 2014 general election seventy (70) days in advance, or August 26, 2014.

Department/Prepared By Erica Hayden, Fiscal & Policy Analyst, Office of the Comptroller

Authorized Signature



---

Did DAS-Fiscal Staff Review?  Yes  No

Did CBDP Review?<sup>2</sup>  Yes  No  Not Required



JOSEPH J. CZARNEZKI • COUNTY CLERK

**MEMO**

**DATE:** July 30, 2014  
**TO:** The Honorable County Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Joseph J. Czarnezki, County Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** Vetoed File Returned

The County Executive has returned to my office the following file:

**File No. 14-521** – A resolution providing for an advisory referendum on the November 4, 2014, election ballot on whether Milwaukee County voters support the State Legislature accepting monies from the Federal government to expand BadgerCare.

This resolution was adopted by a vote of 13 ayes – 4 noes at your meeting of June 26, 2014.

The County Executive has vetoed this resolution and attached is a copy of his veto message wherein he states his objection.

This matter is now before your honorable body.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph J. Czarnezki".

Joseph J. Czarnezki, County Clerk



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Chris Abele

MILWAUKEE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DATE: July 29, 2014

TO: The Honorable Milwaukee Board of Supervisors

FROM: Chris Abele, Milwaukee County Executive

RE: Veto of County Board File No. 14-521, a resolution putting a non-binding, advisory referendum question on the November 4, 2014 ballot asking voters if they support the state accepting federal money for BadgerCare.

---

I am vetoing County Board File No. 14-521 pursuant to the authority granted to me by Article IV, Section 23(a) of the Wisconsin Constitution and Section 59.17(6) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

The County Board adopted a resolution on June 26, 2014 calling for a non-binding, advisory question on the November 4, 2014 ballot asking voters if they support the state accepting federal money for BadgerCare.

Even though I strongly agree with the outcome this question is advocating for, I do not believe these non-binding, advisory referendums are the best use of our tax dollars. Instead of taking money from the contingency fund to pay for these questions, the people of Milwaukee County would be better served spending tax dollars on services like meals for seniors, transit or expanding programming at the HOC.

As policymakers, one of our most important roles is to prioritize how our limited tax dollars are spent. The Comptroller's Office estimates putting this referendum on the ballot will cost \$25,000 to \$40,000 and will require us to take that money from the contingency fund. This referendum, coupled with the three others the Board has approved could cost taxpayers as much as \$160,000.

In the past some, Supervisors have questioned the legitimacy of the extra cost of referendum questions. I'll defer to the Comptroller and Election Commission for their estimate but it is my understanding that every question put on the ballot has a cost for ink, increasing the size of the paper, programming voting machines and required advertising and voter awareness.

Like you, I believe an open and fair democracy is key to a strong and sustainable government. However, I believe there are less costly and more productive ways to move the debate forward and certainly more ways to use tax dollars to directly the benefit the public we serve.

I know Supervisors have the best intentions when they introduce these resolutions. However, spending down our contingency fund on non-essential items when we are looking at a shrinking surplus this year and a predicted structural deficit of \$31.9 million in 2015 is not the best use of taxpayer money.

I urge you to sustain this veto.

MILWAUKEE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 901 NORTH 9<sup>TH</sup> STREET, ROOM 306, MILWAUKEE, WI 53233  
TELEPHONE (414) 278-4211 FAX (414) 223-1375 COUNTY.MILWAUKEE.GOV/COUNTYEXECUTIVE



1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45

UN 2 6 2014  
ADOPTED

13-4

(ITEM ) A resolution by Supervisors Romo West, Broderick, Johnson, Jr., and Rainey providing for an advisory referendum on the November 4, 2014, election ballot on whether Milwaukee County voters support the State Legislature accepting monies from the Federal government to expand BadgerCare, by recommending adoption of the following:

**A RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act allows states to expand Medicaid to all individuals with income up to 133 percent of the federal poverty level and the State of Wisconsin has chosen not to take advantage of the available federal funds; and

WHEREAS, AARP, Inc., has urged Wisconsin to expand Medicaid, stating that the individuals who will gain coverage, an estimated 84,700 Wisconsin residents, will include people who are single without children and who have no other means to get health insurance; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's Internal Medicine Physician Specialists, representing 1,899 medical professionals in Wisconsin, states that it is imperative that Wisconsin accept federal dollars to expand Medicaid because it will improve low-income individuals' health status, reduce uninsured Wisconsinites by an estimated 40 percent, and save the State money because 100 percent federal funding is available in 2014-2015; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Fiscal Bureau estimated acceptance of these federal funds could save the State \$66 million over the course of three years; and

WHEREAS, in Milwaukee County an estimated 21,376 additional adults will be eligible for BadgerCare, a 38 percent increase in insured individuals, as reported by the Legislative Fiscal Bureau on December 16, 2013; and

WHEREAS, increasing access to health care for underinsured and uninsured Milwaukee County residents will reduce health care disparities, improve health outcomes, and lower the total cost of care in our community as reported by the Milwaukee Health Care Partnership; and

WHEREAS, no Milwaukee County resident should forgo preventive and routine medical care if there is a means by which to provide them with affordable health care; and

WHEREAS, Milwaukee County voters deserve the opportunity to voice their opinion on this matter; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby urges the State of Wisconsin to accept all federal funds for BadgerCare available through the Affordable Care Act; and

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
  
CORPORATION COUNSEL

46 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the County Board of Supervisors of Milwaukee  
47 County, Wisconsin, as follows:

48  
49 Section 1. Referendum Election. The County Clerk is hereby directed to call an  
50 advisory referendum election to be held in the County at the regularly scheduled election  
51 to be held on November 4, 2014, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of  
52 the County the proposition of whether the State Legislature shall accept federal funds to  
53 expand BadgerCare to provide affordable health care for thousands of Wisconsin residents.  
54 The referendum shall be held, noticed, and conducted following the procedures set forth  
55 in Section 59.52(25) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

56  
57 Section 2. Official Referendum Ballot Form. The ballot to be used at the  
58 referendum election shall be prepared in accordance with the provisions of Sections  
59 5.64(2) and 7.08(1)(a) of the Wisconsin Statutes. The ballot shall be substantially in the  
60 form attached hereto as Exhibit A.

61  
62  
63

---

64  
65  
66  
67  
68  
69  
70  
71  
72  
73  
74  
75  
76  
77  
78  
79  
80  
81  
82  
83  
84  
85  
86  
87  
88  
89  
90  
91  
92  
93

**EXHIBIT A**

OFFICIAL REFERENDUM BALLOT

November 4, 2014

NOTICE TO ELECTORS: THIS BALLOT MAY BE INVALID UNLESS INITIALED BY TWO (2) ELECTION INSPECTORS. IF CAST AS AN ABSENTEE BALLOT, THE BALLOT MUST BEAR THE INITIALS OF THE MUNICIPAL CLERK OR DEPUTY CLERK.

If you desire to vote on the question, make a cross (X) in the square beneath the question after "YES" if in favor of the question or make a cross (X) in the square after "NO" if opposed to the question.

---

**ADVISORY REFERENDUM**

Shall the next State Legislature accept all available federal funds for BadgerCare to ensure that thousands of Wisconsin citizens have access to affordable health coverage?

YES

NO

---

ag  
06/17/2014  
H:\Shared\COMCLERK\Committees\2014\Jun\JSGS\Resolutions\14-521.doc

MILWAUKEE COUNTY FISCAL NOTE FORM

14-521

DATE: June 2, 2014

Original Fiscal Note

Substitute Fiscal Note

**SUBJECT:** A resolution calling for an advisory referendum on whether the State Legislature should accept money from the federal government to expand BadgerCare

**FISCAL EFFECT:**

- No Direct County Fiscal Impact
  - Existing Staff Time Required
- Increase Operating Expenditures  
(If checked, check one of two boxes below)
  - Absorbed Within Agency's Budget
  - Not Absorbed Within Agency's Budget
- Decrease Operating Expenditures
- Increase Operating Revenues
- Decrease Operating Revenues
- Increase Capital Expenditures
- Decrease Capital Expenditures
- Increase Capital Revenues
- Decrease Capital Revenues
- Use of contingent funds

Indicate below the dollar change from budget for any submission that is projected to result in increased/decreased expenditures or revenues in the current year.

	Expenditure or Revenue Category	Current Year	Subsequent Year
<b>Operating Budget</b>	Expenditure	\$25,000 to \$40,000	\$0
	Revenue	\$0	\$0
	Net Cost	\$25,000 to \$40,000	\$0
<b>Capital Improvement Budget</b>	Expenditure	\$0	\$0
	Revenue	\$0	\$0
	Net Cost	\$0	\$0

## DESCRIPTION OF FISCAL EFFECT

In the space below, you must provide the following information. Attach additional pages if necessary.

- A. Briefly describe the nature of the action that is being requested or proposed, and the new or changed conditions that would occur if the request or proposal were adopted.
- B. State the direct costs, savings or anticipated revenues associated with the requested or proposed action in the current budget year and how those were calculated. <sup>1</sup> If annualized or subsequent year fiscal impacts are substantially different from current year impacts, then those shall be stated as well. In addition, cite any one-time costs associated with the action, the source of any new or additional revenues (e.g. State, Federal, user fee or private donation), the use of contingent funds, and/or the use of budgeted appropriations due to surpluses or change in purpose required to fund the requested action.
- C. Discuss the budgetary impacts associated with the proposed action in the current year. A statement that sufficient funds are budgeted should be justified with information regarding the amount of budgeted appropriations in the relevant account and whether that amount is sufficient to offset the cost of the requested action. If relevant, discussion of budgetary impacts in subsequent years also shall be discussed. Subsequent year fiscal impacts shall be noted for the entire period in which the requested or proposed action would be implemented when it is reasonable to do so (i.e. a five-year lease agreement shall specify the costs/savings for each of the five years in question). Otherwise, impacts associated with the existing and subsequent budget years should be cited.
- D. Describe any assumptions or interpretations that were utilized to provide the information on this form.

- A. Approval of this resolution calls for an advisory referendum to be held on November 4, 2014, asking voters: Shall the next State Legislature accept all available federal funds for BadgerCare to ensure that thousands of Wisconsin citizens have access to affordable health coverage?
- B. Based on information provided and confirmed by Election Commission staff, this fiscal note provides an estimated range of \$25,000 to \$40,000 for the cost of adding an advisory referendum question to the November 4, 2014, County-wide ballot. This estimated cost range is based on the cost of printing ballots, programming election machines and the required newspaper advertising related to the referendum question. Milwaukee County, according to Election Commission staff, is responsible for all costs related to federal, state and county contests. A precise cost calculation is not possible since many factors influence the actual cost of each contest (i.e. election or referendum question) including ballot printing (actual size of ballot, number of columns and whether it is one or two-sided), election machine programming and advertising expenses.

The County's actual cost for holding an advisory referendum during the spring 2008 general election, according to Election Commission staff calculations, was \$17,216. This included \$4,754 for ballots, \$3,569 for election machine programming and \$8,893 in required newspaper advertising. (Referendums

---

<sup>1</sup> If it is assumed that there is no fiscal impact associated with the requested action, then an explanatory statement that justifies that conclusion shall be provided. If precise impacts cannot be calculated, then an estimate or range should be provided.

<sup>2</sup> Community Business Development Partners' review is required on all professional service and public work construction contracts.

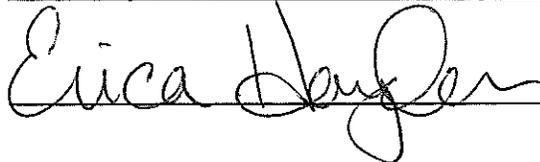
have additional advertising requirements in addition to the usual ballot advertising requirement.)

The County's actual cost for holding and advisory referendum during the fall 2008 general election, according to Election Commission staff calculations, was \$31,795. This included \$17,000 for ballots, \$3,495 for election machine programming and \$11,300 for advertising.

In an estimate prepared in August 2012 for a proposed referendum during the general election scheduled for November 6, 2012, Election Commission staff projected the cost of the advisory referendum at \$37,484. The increase from the actual 2008 referendum was largely due to an increase in the cost of ballot printing.

- C. The budgetary impact is expected to increase the expenditures of the Election Commission by \$25,000 to \$40,000 due to the addition of the advisory referendum. Election Commission staff, historically, have sought fund transfers from the Appropriation for Contingencies for any costs that could not be absorbed within their Adopted Budget. These fund transfers are typically requested after the election is held and actual election costs can be determined. The fiscal note anticipated that an appropriation fund transfer from Org. Unit. 1940 – Countywide non-departmentals, Account 1945 – Appropriation for Contingencies, would be necessary at a later date to cover the additional cost of the proposed referendum that was not contemplated when the 2014 Adopted Budget was approved.
- D. The assumptions and interpretations used for this fiscal note were historical referendum costs and Election Commission professional staff assumptions of current costs for printing, programming and advertising. Please note that the Election Commission, by law, must receive the notice of a referendum for the November 4, 2014 general election seventy (70) days in advance, or August 26, 2014.

Department/Prepared By Erica Hayden, Fiscal & Policy Analyst, Office of the Comptroller

Authorized Signature  \_\_\_\_\_

Did DAS-Fiscal Staff Review?  Yes  No

Did CBDP Review?<sup>2</sup>  Yes  No  Not Required



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

---

JOSEPH J. CZARNEZKI • COUNTY CLERK

MEMO

**DATE:** July 30, 2014  
**TO:** The Honorable County Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Joseph J. Czarnezki, County Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** Vetoed File Returned

The County Executive has returned to my office the following file:

**File No. 14-529** – A resolution providing for an advisory referendum on the November 4, 2014, election ballot on whether Milwaukee County voters support the State amending the Wisconsin Statutes to allow Milwaukee County to transition its management and administrative functions from an elected County Executive to a professional County Administrator.

This resolution was adopted by a vote of 11 ayes – 6 noes at your meeting of June 26, 2014.

The County Executive has vetoed this resolution and attached is a copy of his veto message wherein he states his objection.

This matter is now before your honorable body.

Joseph J. Czarnezki, County Clerk



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Chris Abele

MILWAUKEE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DATE: July 29, 2014

TO: The Honorable Milwaukee Board of Supervisors

FROM: Chris Abele, Milwaukee County Executive

RE: Veto of County Board File No. 14-529, a resolution putting a non-binding, advisory referendum question on the November 4, 2014 ballot regarding management of Milwaukee County.

---

I am vetoing County Board File No. 14-529 pursuant to the authority granted to me by Article IV, Section 23(a) of the Wisconsin Constitution and Section 59.17(6) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

The County Board adopted a resolution on June 26, 2014 calling for a non-binding, advisory referendum to change state law to allow Milwaukee County to replace an elected County Executive with an administrator hired by the County Board.

As I've said time and time again, I believe these non-binding, advisory referendums are not the best use of our tax dollars.

As policymakers, one of our most important roles is to prioritize how our limited tax dollars are spent. The Comptroller's Office estimates putting this referendum on the ballot will cost \$25,000 to \$40,000 and will require us to take that money from the contingency fund. This referendum, coupled with the three others the Board has approved could cost taxpayers as much as \$160,000.

In the past, some Supervisors have questioned the legitimacy of the extra cost of referendum questions. I'll defer to the Comptroller and Election Commission for their estimate but it is my understanding that every question put on the ballot has a cost for ink, increasing the size of the paper, programming voting machines and required advertising and voter awareness.

Like you, I believe an open and fair democracy is key to a strong and sustainable government. However, I believe there are less costly and more productive ways to move the debate forward and certainly more ways to use tax dollars to directly benefit the public we serve.

I know Supervisors have the best intentions when they introduce these resolutions. However, spending down our contingency fund on non-essential items when we are looking at a shrinking surplus this year and a predicted structural deficit of \$31.9 million in 2015 is not the best use of taxpayer money.

I urge you to sustain this veto.

MILWAUKEE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 901 NORTH 9<sup>TH</sup> STREET, ROOM 306, MILWAUKEE, WI 53233  
TELEPHONE (414) 278-4211 FAX (414) 223-1375 COUNTY.MILWAUKEE.GOV/COUNTYEXECUTIVE



JUN 26 2014

ipscomb moved  
to lay over

Failed  
4-13

**ADOPTED**

11-6

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43

(ITEM ) A resolution by Supervisor Johnson, Jr., providing for an advisory referendum on the November 4, 2014, election ballot on whether Milwaukee County voters support the State amending the Wisconsin Statutes to allow Milwaukee County to transition its management and administrative functions from an elected County Executive to a professional County Administrator, by recommending adoption of the following:

**A RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, since 1960, the State of Wisconsin has mandated Milwaukee County to have a county executive; and

WHEREAS, Milwaukee County is the only county in the State of Wisconsin without self-determination in deciding whether to have a county executive or county administrator; and

WHEREAS, in every other county, by resolution of its board or by petition and referendum, the county may create or abolish the office of county executive; and

WHEREAS, ending the requirement that counties with a population of at least 500,000 must elect a county executive will give all counties the same rights in determining their form of governance; and

WHEREAS, in 2001 the Wisconsin State Assembly approved Assembly Bill 865, authored by now-Governor Scott Walker, which eliminated the requirement for counties with populations over 500,000 to elect a county executive, but the bill was not taken up by the Senate; and

WHEREAS, Milwaukee County voters deserve an opportunity to voice their opinion on matters of local governance structure; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the County Board of Supervisors of Milwaukee County, Wisconsin, as follows:

Section 1. Referendum Election. The County Clerk is hereby directed to call an advisory referendum election to be held in the County at the regularly scheduled election to be held on November 4, 2014, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of the County whether they want the Wisconsin Statutes amended to allow Milwaukee County to transition from an elected County Executive to a professional County Administrator. The referendum shall be held, noticed, and conducted following the procedures set forth in Section 59.52(25) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
*Paul Bay*  
CORPORATION COUNSEL

44            Section 2. Official Referendum Ballot Form. The ballot to be used at the  
45 referendum election shall be prepared in accordance with the provisions of Sections  
46 5.64(2) and 7.08(1)(a) of the Wisconsin Statutes. The ballot shall be substantially in the  
47 form attached hereto as Exhibit A.  
48  
49

---

**EXHIBIT A**

OFFICIAL REFERENDUM BALLOT

November 4, 2014

NOTICE TO ELECTORS: THIS BALLOT MAY BE INVALID UNLESS INITIALED BY TWO (2) ELECTION INSPECTORS. IF CAST AS AN ABSENTEE BALLOT, THE BALLOT MUST BEAR THE INITIALS OF THE MUNICIPAL CLERK OR DEPUTY CLERK.

If you desire to vote on the question, make a cross (X) in the square beneath the question after "YES" if in favor of the question or make a cross (X) in the square after "NO" if opposed to the question.

---

**ADVISORY REFERENDUM**

Should Wisconsin Statutes be amended to allow Milwaukee County to transition its management and administrative functions from an elected County Executive to a professional County Administrator?

YES

NO

---

ag  
06/17/2014  
H:\Shared\COMCLERK\Committees\2014\Jun\JSGS\Resolutions\14-529.doc

MILWAUKEE COUNTY FISCAL NOTE FORM

14-529

DATE: June 4, 2014

Original Fiscal Note

Substitute Fiscal Note

**SUBJECT:** Supporting an advisory referendum on the November 2014 ballot asking Milwaukee County voters whether the State should amend its statutes to allow Milwaukee County to transition its management and administrative functions from an elected County Executive to a professional County Administrator

**FISCAL EFFECT:**

- No Direct County Fiscal Impact
  - Existing Staff Time Required
- Increase Operating Expenditures  
(If checked, check one of two boxes below)
  - Absorbed Within Agency's Budget
  - Not Absorbed Within Agency's Budget
- Decrease Operating Expenditures
- Increase Operating Revenues
- Decrease Operating Revenues
- Increase Capital Expenditures
- Decrease Capital Expenditures
- Increase Capital Revenues
- Decrease Capital Revenues
- Use of contingent funds

Indicate below the dollar change from budget for any submission that is projected to result in increased/decreased expenditures or revenues in the current year.

	<b>Expenditure or Revenue Category</b>	<b>Current Year</b>	<b>Subsequent Year</b>
<b>Operating Budget</b>	Expenditure	\$25,000 to \$40,000	\$0
	Revenue	\$0	\$0
	Net Cost	\$25,000 to \$40,000	\$0
<b>Capital Improvement Budget</b>	Expenditure	\$0	\$0
	Revenue	\$0	\$0
	Net Cost	\$0	\$0

## DESCRIPTION OF FISCAL EFFECT

In the space below, you must provide the following information. Attach additional pages if necessary.

- A. Briefly describe the nature of the action that is being requested or proposed, and the new or changed conditions that would occur if the request or proposal were adopted.
- B. State the direct costs, savings or anticipated revenues associated with the requested or proposed action in the current budget year and how those were calculated.<sup>1</sup> If annualized or subsequent year fiscal impacts are substantially different from current year impacts, then those shall be stated as well. In addition, cite any one-time costs associated with the action, the source of any new or additional revenues (e.g. State, Federal, user fee or private donation), the use of contingent funds, and/or the use of budgeted appropriations due to surpluses or change in purpose required to fund the requested action.
- C. Discuss the budgetary impacts associated with the proposed action in the current year. A statement that sufficient funds are budgeted should be justified with information regarding the amount of budgeted appropriations in the relevant account and whether that amount is sufficient to offset the cost of the requested action. If relevant, discussion of budgetary impacts in subsequent years also shall be discussed. Subsequent year fiscal impacts shall be noted for the entire period in which the requested or proposed action would be implemented when it is reasonable to do so (i.e. a five-year lease agreement shall specify the costs/savings for each of the five years in question). Otherwise, impacts associated with the existing and subsequent budget years should be cited.
- D. Describe any assumptions or interpretations that were utilized to provide the information on this form.

- A. Approval of this resolution calls for an advisory referendum to be held on November 4, 2014, asking voters: Should Wisconsin Statutes be amended to allow Milwaukee County to transition its management and administrative functions from an elected County Executive to a professional County Administrator?
- B. Based on information provided and confirmed by Election Commission staff, this fiscal note provides an estimated range of \$25,000 to \$40,000 for the cost of adding an advisory referendum question to the November 4, 2014, County-wide ballot. This estimated cost range is based on the cost of printing ballots, programming election machines and the required newspaper advertising related to the referendum question. Milwaukee County, according to Election Commission staff, is responsible for all costs related to federal, state and county contests. A precise cost calculation is not possible since many factors influence the actual cost of each contest (i.e. election or referendum question) including ballot printing (actual size of ballot, number of columns and whether it is one or two-sided), election machine programming and advertising expenses.

The County's actual cost for holding an advisory referendum during the spring 2008 general election, according to Election Commission staff calculations, was \$17,216. This included \$4,754 for ballots, \$3,569 for election machine programming and \$8,893 in required newspaper advertising. (Referendums

---

<sup>1</sup> If it is assumed that there is no fiscal impact associated with the requested action, then an explanatory statement that justifies that conclusion shall be provided. If precise impacts cannot be calculated, then an estimate or range should be provided.

<sup>2</sup> Community Business Development Partners' review is required on all professional service and public work construction contracts.

have additional advertising requirements in addition to the usual ballot advertising requirement.)

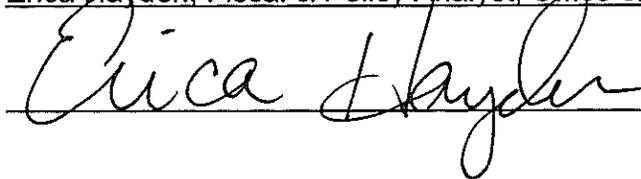
The County's actual cost for holding and advisory referendum during the fall 2008 general election, according to Election Commission staff calculations, was \$31,795. This included \$17,000 for ballots, \$3,495 for election machine programming and \$11,300 for advertising.

In an estimate prepared in August 2012 for a proposed referendum during the general election scheduled for November 6, 2012, Election Commission staff projected the cost of the advisory referendum at \$37,484. The increase from the actual 2008 referendum was largely due to an increase in the cost of ballot printing.

- C. The budgetary impact is expected to increase the expenditures of the Election Commission by \$25,000 to \$40,000 due to the addition of the advisory referendum. Election Commission staff, historically, have sought fund transfers from the Appropriation for Contingencies for any costs that could not be absorbed within their Adopted Budget. These fund transfers are typically requested after the election is held and actual election costs can be determined. The fiscal note anticipated that an appropriation fund transfer from Org. Unit. 1940 – Countywide non-departmentals, Account 1945 – Appropriation for Contingencies, would be necessary at a later date to cover the additional cost of the proposed referendum that was not contemplated when the 2014 Adopted Budget was approved.
- D. The assumptions and interpretations used for this fiscal note were historical referendum costs and Election Commission professional staff assumptions of current costs for printing, programming and advertising. Please note that the Election Commission, by law, must receive the notice of a referendum for the November 4, 2014 general election seventy (70) days in advance, or August 26, 2014.

Department/Prepared By Erica Hayden, Fiscal & Policy Analyst, Office of the Comptroller

Authorized Signature



Did DAS-Fiscal Staff Review?  Yes  No

Did CBDP Review?<sup>2</sup>  Yes  No  Not Required