

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
DECEMBER 21, 2022

Pursuant to Section 19.85 and 59.094, Wis. Stats., notice is hereby given to the public that the regular meeting of the **BROWN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS** was held **Wednesday, December 21, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.**, in the **2nd Floor Event Space, Resch Expo, 840 Armed Forces Dr., Green Bay, WI 54304.**

No. 14n -- RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AMENDING THE U.S. CONSTITUTION TO ENABLE CONGRESS AND THE STATES TO REASONABLY REGULATE CAMPAIGN FINANCE.

TO THE HONORABLE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE BROWN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Ladies and Gentlemen:

WHEREAS, a government of, by and for the people has long been a cherished American value, and free and fair elections are essential to democracy and effective self-government; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin has a tradition of open government and nonpartisan local elections, as well as campaign finance rules that attempt to mitigate the influence of money on those elections, and the people of the State of Wisconsin have a compelling sovereign interest in preventing unknown foreign actors and other entities from spending unlimited sums of money to influence the outcomes of our elections; and

WHEREAS, Political Action Committees ('**PACs**') that are registered for Federal or State elections are **restricted** in the amounts of money that donors can contribute to the PAC, and in how much an individual PAC can contribute directly to a candidate or a political party. In addition, PACs **must divulge** who their donors are, and what candidates or party the PAC contributed towards; and

WHEREAS, the 1976 U.S. Supreme Court ruling in Buckley v. Valeo declared, in general, that spending money to influence elections is a protected form of speech; and

WHEREAS, the 2010 U.S. Supreme Court ruling in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission declared, in general, that corporations, labor unions and other organizations may engage in **unrestricted** spending on campaigns by utilizing what are commonly referred to as Super Political Action Committees ('**Super PACs**') if: **a)** they don't make contributions directly to candidates or political parties; and **b)** their spending is done independently of candidates or political parties; and

WHEREAS, Issue Advocacy Groups ('**IAGs**') are non-profit organizations that may engage in **unrestricted** spending on campaigns and do **not** have to disclose their donors - the money IAGs receive is called 'Dark Money' because the donors are typically unknown. Like Super

PACs, IAGs cannot spend money on campaigns in coordination with candidates or political parties, but **IAGs can funnel unlimited amounts of money into Super PACs. While Super PACs must disclose their donors, contributions to Super PACs from IAGs only name the IAGs as the donors, and the original source of the IAGs' Dark Money is not disclosed**; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable for the Brown County Board of Supervisors to adopt this Resolution in order to demonstrate its support to have the U.S. Constitution amended in a manner that would enable Congress and the States to ~~once again~~ reasonably regulate campaign finance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Brown County Board of Supervisors hereby expresses its desire to have the U.S. Constitution amended in a manner that would enable Congress and the States to ~~once again~~ reasonably regulate campaign finance, and hereby directs that a copy of this Resolution be emailed to the federal Senators and Congresspersons that represent the State of Wisconsin.

****Amended at the Brown County Board of Supervisors Meeting on December 21, 2022**

Respectfully submitted,

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Approved By: /s/ Troy Streckenbach Date: 12/22/2022

22-112R

Drafted by: Corporation Counsel at the direction of the County Board, and with assistance from Supervisors Borchardt and Theno.

Approved by: Corporation Counsel.

A motion was made by Supervisor Theno and seconded by Supervisor Lefebvre **“to approve.”**

A motion was made by Supervisor Landwehr and seconded by Supervisor Nicholson **“to amend the last whereas; it is desirable for the Brown County Board of Supervisors to adopt this resolution in order to demonstrate its support in a manner that would enable congress and the states to reasonably regulate campaign finance. Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the Brown County Board of Supervisors so hereby express its desire to have congress and the states to reasonably regulate campaign finance, and hereby directs that a copy of this Resolution be emailed to the federal Senators and Congresspersons that represent the State of Wisconsin.”**

A motion was made by Supervisor Evans and seconded by Supervisor Borchardt **“to suspend the rules to open the floor to the public.”** Voice vote taken. Motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.

Judy Nagel addressed Supervisor Evans and answered questions.

A motion was made by Supervisor Landwehr and seconded by Supervisor Evans **“to return to regular order of business.”** Voice vote taken. Motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.

Roll call vote taken on motion made by Supervisor Landwehr to amend.

Supervisors	Dist. #	Vote	Supervisors	Dist. #	Vote	Supervisors	Dist. #	Vote	Aye	
Antonneau	1	Nay	Vander Leest	10	Nay	Adams	19	Nay	Nay	23
De Wane	2	Excused	Buckley	11	Nay	Coenen	20	Nay	Abstain	0
Nicholson	3	Aye	Landwehr	12	Aye	Schultz	21	Nay	Excused	1
Jacobson	4	Nay	Dantinne, Jr.	13	Nay	Peters	22	Nay	Absent	0
Theno	5	Nay	Avery	14	Nay	Suennen	23	Nay	Late	0
Lefebvre	6	Nay	Fuller	15	Nay	Schadewald	24	Nay		
Friberg	7	Nay	Kaster	16	Nay	Lund	25	Nay	Total	25
Borchardt	8	Nay	Van Dyck	17	Nay	Deneys	26	Nay		
Evans	9	Nay	Hopkins	18	Nay					

Motion failed.

A motion was made by Supervisor Schadewald and seconded by Supervisor Landwehr “**to amend in the last Whereas strike ‘once again’ and in Now Therefore, Be It Resolved strike ‘once again’.**” Voice vote taken. Motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.

A motion was made by Supervisor Lund and seconded by Supervisor Theno “**to approve as amended.**” Roll call vote taken.

Supervisors	Dist. #	Vote	Supervisors	Dist. #	Vote	Supervisors	Dist. #	Vote	Aye	
Antonneau	1	Aye	Vander Leest	10	Aye	Adams	19	Aye	Nay	2
De Wane	2	Excused	Buckley	11	Aye	Coenen	20	Aye	Abstain	1
Nicholson	3	Aye	Landwehr	12	Nay	Schultz	21	Aye	Excused	1
Jacobson	4	Aye	Dantinne, Jr.	13	Aye	Peters	22	Aye	Absent	0
Theno	5	Aye	Avery	14	Aye	Suennen	23	Aye	Late	0
Lefebvre	6	Aye	Fuller	15	Aye	Schadewald	24	Aye		
Friberg	7	Aye	Kaster	16	Aye	Lund	25	Aye	Total	25
Borchardt	8	Aye	Van Dyck	17	Abstain	Deneys	26	Aye		
Evans	9	Aye	Hopkins	18	Nay					

Motion carried.