

2 **RESOLUTION: Place Advisory Referendum on the Minimum Wage upon the November**
3 **4, 2014, Ballot**
4

5 **TO THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

6 **WHEREAS**, it is one of our most cherished values that there is dignity in work, and that everyone in
7 Wisconsin should have the opportunity to work their way into the middle class, not fall out of it; and

8 **WHEREAS**, we are not short of work ethic in Wisconsin; we are short of good jobs that enable working
9 families to being to work their way up; and

10 **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin workers are working harder and harder for less and less; every year the minimum
11 wage stays the same while workers take a pay cut; and wages are now so low that millions of full time workers are
12 below the poverty line and qualify for food stamps; and

13 **WHEREAS**, if people do not earn enough money to pay for the basics such as food, rent, and transportation,
14 the economy stalls, weakening our communities and damaging local businesses; and

15 **WHEREAS**, powerful corporations actively use their influence to hold down wags and benefits, creating
16 economy-busting jobs rather than economy-boosting jobs; and

17 **WHEREAS**, nearly 9 in 10 Wisconsin workers who would benefit from a minimum wage increase are 20
18 years of age of older; nearly two-thirds are women; and 234,000 Wisconsin children would see their families' income
19 increase; and

20 **WHEREAS**, our government's role is to maintain a wage and benefit floor to guarantee all work is valued,
21 and that no Wisconsin worker is denied an honest day's pay for an honest day's work; and

22 **WHEREAS**, the great American middle class is not something that just happened but was built brick by brick;
23 and

24 **WHEREAS**, a \$10.10 minimum wage would bring our wage floor to roughly the same level as it was in the
25 late 1960s, adjusted for inflation;

26 **WHEREAS**, the most important thing we can do to generate shared prosperity and build an economy that
27 works for everyone, not just the powerful, is to create more economy-boosting jobs; and

28 **WHEREAS**, a \$10.10 minimum wage would raise wages for 587,000 Wisconsin workers by \$816 million, and
29 generate over \$500 million in additional economic activity in Wisconsin in the next three years, resulting in nearly
30 4,000 new jobs; and

31 **WHEREAS**, it is time that Wisconsin worked again for people who work for a living;

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33 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that an advisory
34 referendum be placed upon the November 4, 2014, ballot to advise the State of Wisconsin as to the level of support
35 within the Winnebago County population for an increase in the minimum wage.

36 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that said advisory
37 referendum read as follows:

38 *Should the State of Wisconsin increase the minimum wage to \$10.10 per hour?*

39 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Corporation Counsel's Office shall fulfill its statutory obligations with
40 respect to drafting an explanation of the above referendum question and that the Clerk be directed to place said
41 question and explanation on the November 4, 2014, ballot.

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Respectfully submitted by:

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Michael Norton, District 20

46 Committee Vote: _____

47 Vote Required for Passage: **Majority of Those Present**

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49 Approved by the Winnebago County Executive this _____ day of _____, 2014.

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Mark L Harris
Winnebago County Executive