

**RESOLUTION
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Supervisor Yuri Rashkin
INITIATED BY



Supervisor Yuri Rashkin
DRAFTED BY

Supervisor Yuri Rashkin
SUBMITTED BY

June 11, 2018
DATE DRAFTED

**APPROVING A COUNTY WIDE ADVISORY REFERENDUM ON THE LEGALIZATION
AND REGULATION OF THE ADULT USE OF CANNABIS**

1 **WHEREAS**, criminalizing marijuana use has failed to curb its use and more than 100 million
2 Americans say they have used marijuana; and
3
4 **WHEREAS**, 59 percent of Wisconsinites in a 2016 poll said that marijuana should be “fully legalized
5 and regulated like alcohol”, and recent polls show a majority of Americans favor legalization of adult
6 recreational use of marijuana; and
7
8 **WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin State Legislature has failed to act on legislation to legalize and regulate
9 marijuana and has not allowed hearings on such legislation; and
10
11 **WHEREAS**, an estimate by the Congressional Research Service suggests that replacing marijuana
12 prohibition with a system of taxation and regulation could yield \$6.8 billion in federal excise taxes
13 alone; and
14
15 **WHEREAS**, Alaska, California, Colorado, Maine, Massachusetts, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington
16 have legalized adult personal use of marijuana and regulate the production, distribution, and sale of
17 marijuana, and Vermont and the District of Columbia have legalized limited personal possession and
18 cultivation of marijuana by adults; and
19
20 **WHEREAS**, legalizing and taxing marijuana could significantly increase state and local revenue; and
21
22 **WHEREAS**, the time law enforcement spends enforcing existing marijuana laws and ordinances
23 negatively impacts the time available to solve more serious crimes and apprehend more dangerous
24 criminals; and
25
26 **WHEREAS**, marijuana prohibition makes product quality control and sales regulation impossible,
27 leaving marijuana sellers free to target children as potential customers and to peddle potentially
28 adulterated products; and
29
30 **WHEREAS**, the lack of a dispute resolution system for disputes in the illicit marijuana trade
31 inevitably leads to violence as disputes arise.
32
33 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Rock County Board of Supervisors in session this
34 28th day of June, 2018, that the following advisory referendum be placed on the countywide general
35 election ballot scheduled for November 6, 2018:

Should cannabis be legalized for adult use, taxed and regulated like alcohol, with the proceeds from the Taxes used for education, healthcare, and infrastructure?

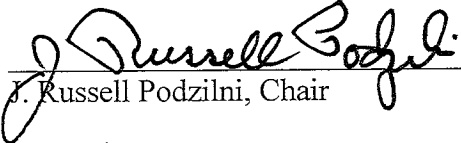
18-6B-041

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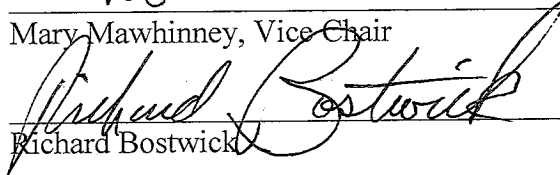
Respectfully submitted,

COUNTY BOARD STAFF COMMITTEE


J. Russell Podzilni, Chair

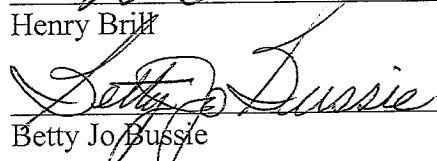
- No -

Mary Mawhinney, Vice Chair


Richard Bostwick

- NO -

Henry Brill

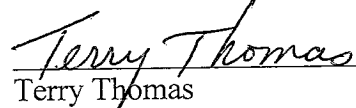

Betty Jo Bussie

- No -

Louis Peer

absent

Alan Sweeney


Terry Thomas

absent

Robert Yeomans

BOARD OF HEALTH

Louis Peer, Chair

Dr. Connie Winter, DDS, Vice Chair

Vicki Brown

Craig Gramke

Eric Gresens, R. Ph.

Dr. Kaitlyn Meyers


Danette Rynes

Dr. Vijaya Somaraju, MC, MPH, FACP

Judy Wade, WHNP

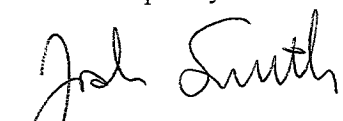
LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to secs. 59.51 and 59.52 (25), Wis. Stats.


Richard Greenlee
Corporation Counsel

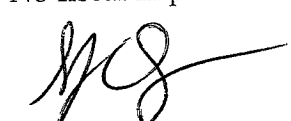
ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Matter of policy.


Josh Smith
County Administrator

FISCAL NOTE:

No fiscal impact in and by itself.


Sherry Oja
Finance Director