## **KENOSHA COUNTY**

## **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

## **RESOLUTION NO.**

Subject: Calling on the Legislature to Enact Automatic Voter Registration								
Original 🛛	Corrected	2nd Correction	Re					
Date Submitted:			Date Resubmitted:					
Submitted By: John Franco								
Fiscal Note Attached			Legal Note Attached					
Prepared By: John Franco				Signature:				

**Whereas**, approximately 3 million Wisconsinites voted in the November 2016 presidential election out of almost 4.5 million eligible voters in Wisconsin; and

**Whereas**, with an estimated 3.5 million eligible registered voters in Wisconsin, roughly 500,000 registered voters did not vote in 2016 and about 1 million still are not registered; and

Whereas, the result of Automatic Voter Registration (AVR) laws has increased voting percentages, as more eligible voters were added to the rolls; and

**Whereas**, Oregon, the first state in the union to implement automatic voter registration, in 2016, registered 288,516 new voters for the first time, of which 186,050 were registered as a result of the AVR law and an additional 35,000 Oregon residents whose registration had lapsed were re-registered through AVR; and

**Whereas**, according to the Department of Transportation there are 4,161,331 Wisconsinites with drivers licenses but, as mentioned, only 3.5 million registered voters meaning that, even adjusting for residents who are not citizens or who are under the age of 18, there are a substantial number of eligible voters who would be automatically added to the voter rolls; and

Whereas, automatic voter registration has saved money for taxpayers by reducing the time and cost of paper registration, just as Wisconsin online registration has simplified the process and cut costs for those who have been able to take advantage of it; and

**Whereas**, Assembly Bill 609 on Automatic Voter Registration was already introduced on November 2, 2017, but was not put on the Assembly schedule for consideration;

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved**, that the Kenosha County Board of Supervisors call on the Wisconsin State Legislature to reintroduce legislation to pass an automatic voter registration law in Wisconsin, which would allow the Department of Transportation to coordinate with the Wisconsin Elections Commission in order to maintain a reliable data base of voter information, automatically registering eligible voters unless they wished to opt out of the automatic registration system; and

**Be It Further Resolved**, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Representative Eric Genrich, Senator Dave Hansen, Kenosha County's legislative delegation, Wisconsin Assembly and Senate leadership, Governor Scott Walker, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and to all other Wisconsin counties.

John Franco

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## Approved by:

Legislative Committee:

	Aye	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	Excused
Gabe Nudo, Chair				
Andy Berg, Vice-Chair				
Dayvin Hallmon				
Boyd Frederick				
John Franco				
Zach Rodriguez				
Mark Nordigian				