(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.

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

## **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

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06/17/2014