

**Date: September 15, 2023**

**To: Marcelia Nicholson, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors  
Sequanna Taylor, Chairwoman, Committee on Intergovernmental Relations**

**From: Fred Ludwig, Government Affairs Liaison, County Board of Supervisors**

**Subject: File No. 23-10 Report**

## **Background**

Pursuant to File No. 23-10, this report is submitted as an informational report regarding legislative updates. The purpose of this report is to provide an update related to local, state, and federal policy developments, as well as an overview on the current state legislative session.

## **Sales Tax**

On July 27, 2023, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors voted to adopt a resolution [15-3] authored by the Chairwoman to enact an additional 0.4% county sales and use tax.

The approved legislation was made possible by the enactment of 2023 Wisconsin Act 12, which was adopted by the Wisconsin State Legislature and signed into law by the Governor. It provided increased state funding for local governments and authorized Milwaukee County to enact local sales taxes.

The act requires the county to repeal the ordinance imposing the tax after the county's retirement system is first fully funded, or 30 years after the additional sales and use tax takes effect, whichever occurs first.

The resolution was signed into law by the County Executive on August 3, 2023, and the sales tax will become effective January 1, 2024.

## **State Legislative Update**

### *American Family Field*

State level discussions surrounding stadium maintenance funding legislation for American Family Field are ongoing. It is anticipated that Assembly majority party legislators will introduce legislation the week of September 18.

### *Redistricting*

On Thursday, September 14, the State Assembly approved legislation moving Wisconsin toward a nonpartisan style redistricting process, which passed with all majority party members voting in favor and one minority party member joining in favor.

The legislation would have the nonpartisan Legislative Reference Bureau draw maps that meet a variety of standards, with the legislature then voting on whether to approve them.

It is unclear whether the State Senate will take up this Assembly proposal or whether the Governor would approve or veto the legislation should it make its way to his desk.

### *Elections Commission*

On Thursday, September 14, the State Senate voted along party lines to fire the Wisconsin Election Commission Administrator. In response, the Wisconsin Attorney General filed a lawsuit seeking an order declaring that she is lawfully holding over in her current position, and that the State Senate has no power to reject her.