1   File No. 21-898
2
3   From the Chairwoman, Independent Redistricting Commission, submitting a
4   supervisorial district reapportionment plan to the Board of Supervisors pursuant to
5   Section 3.01 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances, by recommending
6   **REJECTION** of the following:
7
8   **A RESOLUTION**
9
10   WHEREAS, in File No. 19-781, Milwaukee County issued an advisory
11 referendum on April 7, 2020 to the people of Milwaukee County asking, "Should the
12 Wisconsin Legislature create a nonpartisan procedure for the preparation of Legislative
13 and Congressional district plans and maps?", to which 79.49 percent of electors voted
14 "Yes"; and
15
16   WHEREAS, the County Board of Supervisors created an Independent
17 Redistricting Commission (IRC) in Section 3.01 of the Milwaukee County Code of
18 General Ordinance (MCGO), composed of six retired judges "in the interest of good
19 government reform" in File No. 15-691, which the County Board of Supervisors
20 amended in File No. 21-567 to account for extraordinary circumstances created by the
21 COVID-19 Pandemic; and
22
23   WHEREAS, Section 3.01(2)(a) MCGO specifies the IRC shall comply with the
24 following criteria:
25
26   1. Federal equal population mandates
27   2. Reapportionment criteria established by federal and State laws
28   3. Upholding minority voting rights pursuant to the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965
29   4. Drawing district boundaries which strive to maintain the integrity of existing
30   neighborhoods and communities of interest
31
32 ; and
33
34   WHEREAS, the IRC prioritized the criteria of Section 3.01(2)(a) MCGO in the
35 following order:
36
37   1. Honoring the intent of the Voting Rights Act of 1965
38   2. Respecting municipal boundaries
39   3. Equalizing the population between districts within +/- four percent
40   4. Making the districts as compact as possible
41

42   ; and
43

44   WHEREAS, the IRC was mindful of the Wisconsin redistricting case, *Baldus v.*
45   *Members of the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board*, 849 F.Supp. 2d 840 (E.D.
46   Wis. 2012), particularly Section 3.5: Voting Rights Act Claim of Latinos; and
47

48   WHEREAS, since 2010, Milwaukee County has become more diverse and
49   integrated with the White majority of 2010 and before has become a plurality in 2020;
50   leading the IRC to draw nine White-majority districts, six Black-majority districts, two
51   Latino-majority districts, and one plural majority-minority district; and
52

53   WHEREAS, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 59.10 and the Wisconsin Counties
54   Association's handbook, as an independent entity the IRC began the redistricting
55   process with a "clean slate" and made no considerations for incumbency nor the
56   political ideology or voting patterns of electors within the considered districts; and
57

58   WHEREAS, after due deliberation of six different maps drafted with the technical
59   assistance of the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC),
60   the two finalists being "Map E" and "Map F", the IRC by a vote of 5-1 determined "Map
61   E" to be most suitable based on the criteria of 3.01(2)(a) MCGO and the criteria
62   prioritization the IRC established; and
63

64   WHEREAS, the Committee on Judiciary, Safety, and General Services, at its
65   special meeting of September 29, 2021, recommended **REJECTION** of File No. 21-898
66   (vote 5-0); now, therefore,
67

68   BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to the criteria and specifications in Section 3.01 of
69   the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances, Wis. Stat. § 59.10, and relevant
70   case law, the Independent Redistricting Commission hereby recommends "Map E"
71   (hereto attached to this file) to the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors; and
72

73   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
74   hereby adopts "Map E" as the proposed redistricting plan for elections to the Milwaukee
75   County Board of Supervisors for elections beginning in 2022, and hereby authorizes
76   and directs the County Clerk and Office of Corporation Counsel, working in conjunction
77   with other staff as needed, to transmit the plan to municipalities in Milwaukee County to
78   develop local ward maps.
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80
81
82   09/29/21
83   S:\Committees\2021\Sept\JSGS Special TBD\Resolution\21-898 IRC Proposed Redistricting Map ars no edits.docx