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(ITEM) A resolution/ordinance by Supervisor Rainey creating Chapter 112 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances to establish a Voter Registration Program to expand access to voter registration opportunities for all citizens of Milwaukee County, by recommending adoption of the following:

A RESOLUTION/ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, the Voter Registration Program will provide Milwaukee County residents with an accessible and convenient opportunity to register to vote for federal, state, and local elections and maintain their voter registration; and

WHEREAS, this Program requires that Milwaukee County provide forms and assistance for voter registration when a qualifying voter applies for or renews services or updates address information related to those services; and

WHEREAS, this Program also creates requirements for Milwaukee County to forward completed application forms to the appropriate local election officials; and

WHEREAS, this Program requires that Milwaukee County institute safeguards to ensure uniformity and non-discriminatory practices in its initiation; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of Milwaukee County to designate voter registration sites based on the breadth of services and customer volume at those sites; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the Milwaukee County Clerk issues marriage licenses and domestic partnership declarations, accepts applications for passports, sells bus passes and Department of Natural Resources licenses, and serves approximately 11,800 Milwaukee County citizens annually; and

WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Housing Division administers the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program, accommodates families and individuals with rent assistance for decent, safe, and sanitary housing provided by private owners and rental agents, and serves approximately 35 Milwaukee County citizens daily and approximately 8,785 citizens annually; and

WHEREAS, the Disability Resource Center of Milwaukee County provides information and assistance regarding services for adults with disabilities ages 18 to 59, assists individuals with long-term and short-term planning needs, including accessing community services and resources and learning about available benefits, and serves approximately 1,300 citizens a year, with 300 individuals served by its Burial Assistance Program; and

46 WHEREAS, the Milwaukee Justice Center addresses the legal needs of
47 Milwaukee County's unrepresented litigants through court-based programs and
48 legal resources, and serves approximately 10,000 Milwaukee County citizens annually;
49 and

50
51 WHEREAS, the Veterans Service Office assists eligible veterans and their
52 dependents in applying for state and federal veterans benefits including loans, death
53 benefits, education, and retraining grants, provides assistance in obtaining military
54 records, and serves approximately 3,900 Milwaukee County citizens annually; and

55
56 WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Treasurer's Office maintains property tax
57 data that is accessible to the public at the Courthouse, collects delinquent property or
58 real estate taxes in Milwaukee County's 18 suburban municipalities as required by State
59 Statutes, and serves approximately 300 to 400 Milwaukee County citizens annually;
60 now, therefore,

61
62 BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the completion of one year of operation of this
63 ordinance, the Audit Services Division of the Office of the Comptroller shall conduct and
64 submit to the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors an audit of the operation and
65 uniform application of this ordinance by each of the designated Voter Registration
66 Program sites; and

67
68 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that to create a Voter Registration Program to
69 expand access to voter registration opportunities for all citizens of Milwaukee County,
70 the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors does hereby adopt the following:

71
72 **AN ORDINANCE**

73
74 The Board of Supervisors of the County of Milwaukee does ordain as follows:

75
76 **SECTION 1.** Chapter 112 of the General Ordinances of Milwaukee County is created
77 as follows:

78
79 **112.01. Policy**

80
81 It shall be the policy of Milwaukee County to establish a Voter Registration
82 Program ("VRP") to allow Milwaukee County residents to register to vote for local, state,
83 and federal elections at designated locations where they apply for, renew, or update
84 information for the receipt of services delivered by Milwaukee County.

85
86 **112.02. Designated Milwaukee County VRP Sites**

87
88 (1) Milwaukee County designates the following six (6) VRP sites to offer voter
89 registration:

90
91 (a) Office of the Milwaukee County Clerk

92 Milwaukee County Courthouse – Room 105
93 901 North 9th Street
94 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233
95 Telephone: (414) 278-4067

96
97 (b) Milwaukee County Housing Division
98 Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program
99 600 West Walnut Street, Suite 100
100 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53212
101 Telephone: (414) 278-4894
102

103 (c) Disability Resource Center of Milwaukee County
104 1220 West Vliet Street
105 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53205
106 Telephone: (414) 289-6660
107

108 (d) Milwaukee Justice Center
109 Milwaukee County Courthouse - Room G9
110 901 North 9th Street
111 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233
112 Telephone: (414) 278-2912
113

114 (e) Veterans Services Office
115 6419 West Greenfield Avenue
116 West Allis, Wisconsin 53214
117 Telephone: (414) 266-1234
118

119 (f) Office of the Milwaukee County Treasurer
120 Milwaukee County Courthouse – Room 102
121 901 North 9th Street
122 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233
123 Telephone: (414) 278-4033
124

125 **112.03. Special Registration Deputy Requirements**

126
127 Employees trained as Special Registration Deputies (SRDs) by the City of
128 Milwaukee shall obtain SRD confirmation from each of the participating municipal
129 clerks, in the manner and to the extent required by each municipality.
130

131 **112.04. Accountability, enforcement, and monitoring**

132
133 (1) The VRP sites designated in section 112.02 shall offer voter registration to
134 citizens applying for benefits, recertifying their eligibility, or changing their
135 address.
136

137 (2) Reception area staff for each designated VRP site shall inquire whether the
138 citizen wishes to register to vote. If the citizen expresses interest in the VRP, staff
139 members shall provide each interested person with a VRP packet and shall
140 contact the office SRD to conduct the citizen's voter registration. The VRP
141 packet shall consist of the following documents:

- 142
- 143 (a) Wisconsin Voter Registration Application (Government Accountability
- 144 Board Form GAB-131)
- 145 (b) Proof of Residence for Voter Registration (per the list found on GAB-131)
- 146 (c) Milwaukee County Municipal Clerk Contact Information
- 147 (d) Addresses for Voter Websites (GAB & Milwaukee County Election
- 148 Commission)
- 149 (e) Milwaukee County Designated Site – SRD Contact Information
- 150

151 (3) SRDs from the designated VRP site shall complete a reporting form each
152 Monday for the prior week, listing the number of citizens who came to the office,
153 the number of citizens who accepted a VRP packet, and the number of citizens
154 who registered to vote.

155

156 (4) SRDs shall mail each completed voter registration application within three (3)
157 business days of receipt to the appropriate Milwaukee County municipal clerk's
158 office.

159

160 (5) For those Milwaukee County municipal clerks' offices that do not recognize
161 SRDs, SRD staff at the designated VRP sites shall provide a citizen interested in
162 registering to vote with the VRP packet and appropriate municipal clerk's address
163 and telephone number so the citizen may register at that location.

164

165 **SECTION 2.** The provisions of this ordinance shall be effective upon passage and
166 publication.

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