RESOLUTION # 44-1/23

TO: HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

RE: AUTHORIZING ADVISORY REFERENDUM QUESTION ON ABORTION BAN

WHEREAS, On June 24, 2022, the United States Supreme Court made the decision to overturn Roe v. Wade, eliminating people’s constitutional right to access a safe and legal abortion. Given this reversal of a 50-year precedent, individual states now dictate access to reproductive care; and,

WHEREAS, Wisconsin Statute s. 940.04, enacted in 1849, bans abortion at any stage of pregnancy without exception for rape, incest, or health of the patient; and,

WHEREAS, polling consistently shows that the majority of people in Wisconsin, and across the United States, oppose the overturn of Roe v. Wade; and,

WHEREAS, the decision to overturn Roe v. Wade disproportionately affects communities of color, low-income communities, people who are disabled, immigrants, young people, and members of the LGBTQ+ community. This is an attack on reproductive care and sets a dangerous precedent for other questions of bodily autonomy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to Wisconsin Statute s. 59.52(25) the La Crosse County Board hereby directs the County Clerk to place the question set forth below on the April 4, 2023 ballot as an advisory referendum:

Advisory Referendum Question: Should the Wisconsin legislature repeal the state’s 1849 abortion ban that provides no exceptions in cases of rape or incest nor to protect the health of the mother?

a. YES REPEAL
b. NO KEEP

FISCAL NOTE: Approximately $5,000 for the preparation and noticing of the referendum ballot.

Date: 11/1/23

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR

Reviewed Only Recommended Not Recommended
Co. Admin.  

Fin. Director  

Corp. Counsel  

Board Chair  

Adopted by the La Crosse County Board this 19th Day of January, 2023

STATE OF WISCONSIN
COUNTY OF LA CROSSE

I, Ginny Dankmeyer, County Clerk of La Crosse County do hereby certify that this document is a true and correct copy of the original resolution required by law to be in my custody and which the County Board of Supervisors of La Crosse County adopted at a meeting held on the 19th day of January 2023.

Ginny Dankmeyer, La Crosse County Clerk