

**NOTICE OF REFERENDUM
OUTAGAMIE COUNTY
NOVEMBER 6, 2018**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that at an election to be held in Outagamie County, during the General Election on November 6, 2018, the following proposed Resolution of the Outagamie County Board, will be submitted to a vote of the people:

Resolution No. 164—2017-2018

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Outagamie County Board of Supervisors does resolve to conduct a county-wide advisory referendum, to be held with the November 2018 general election; that a concise statement of the question is given and that the question will state as follows:

Question: Should the state legislature enact proposed legislation that closes the Dark Store loopholes, which currently allow commercial retail properties to significantly reduce the assessed valuation and property tax of such properties, resulting in a substantial shift in taxes levied against other tax paying entities, such as residential home owners, and/or cuts in essential services provided by an affected municipality?, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Corporation Counsel prepare a Notice of Referendum to be published by the Outagamie County Clerk in accordance with statutory requirements, and

BE IT STILL FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution and the referendum shall be filed with the Outagamie County Clerk no later than 70 days prior to the election at which the question will appear on the ballot, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Outagamie County Clerk be directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Outagamie County Corporation Counsel and the Outagamie County Executive in accordance with statutory requirements.
Dated this 27th day of March 2018

The question will appear on the ballot as follows:

Question: Should the state legislature enact proposed legislation that closes the Dark Store loopholes, which currently allow commercial retail properties to significantly reduce the assessed valuation and property tax of such properties, resulting in a substantial shift in taxes levied against other tax paying entities, such as residential home owners, and/or cuts in essential services provided by an affected municipality?

EXPLANATION

The referendum election ballot will ask County electors to vote "yes" or "no" on the referendum election question as set forth above.

A "Yes" vote on the Question means that you are in favor of the Wisconsin State Legislature enacting state-wide legislation to close the "Dark Store" loopholes. The "Dark Store" loopholes currently enable large commercial retail properties to significantly and disproportionately reduce their assessed valuation and property tax by valuing their retail space to that of vacant or abandoned "dark" properties, resulting in a sizable shift of the tax burden from the large commercial ("big box") retail sector to residential properties and small businesses.

A "No" vote on the Question means you do not want the Wisconsin State Legislature to enact legislation to close the "Dark Store" loopholes, which currently allow large commercial ("big box") retail properties to significantly and disproportionately reduce their assessed valuation and property tax by valuing their retail space to that of vacant or abandoned "dark" properties, resulting in a sizable shift of the tax burden from the large commercial ("big box") retail sector to residential properties and small businesses.