

From: [Bob Feidler - District 9](#)
To: [Cathy Leaf - District 4](#); [Paul Adams - District 6](#); [Mark Carlson - District 15](#); [Tim Ramberg - District 19](#)
Cc: [Ken Witt](#)
Subject: Slightly Revised Text of Resolution re the Constitution and Explanation of How the Committee Might Proceed
Date: Wednesday, November 30, 2022 7:37:40 PM

Committee Members:

Working with the corporate counsel we identified several changes to the text of the Resolution to Support the Constitution that was provided in your packet. They are typographical and grammatical, and meant to tighten the language of the Resolution, but not change the purpose of the Resolution.

For example, the title is changed to “Resolution to Support the United States Constitution and the Wisconsin Constitution and Rights Explicitly Provided Therein”.

This language added "United States" before “Constitution "and adds “Wisconsin Constitution”. This language better parallels the second Whereas Clause.

Also, substituted is the language “Rights Explicitly Provided Therein” which, of course embraces the rights explicitly provided by the Second Amendment.

There are no proposed changes to the first and second Whereas clauses which essentially recite our support for the Constitution and accurately state excerpts from the U.S. and Wisconsin Constitutions.

In the third Whereas clause, we substitute the actual words of the Constitution “the right to keep and bear arms” as more accurately describing what the Supreme Court has upheld. Deleted are the last six words of this clause —“both as to Federal and State laws” because that language is picked up in the the fourth Whereas clause.

In the fourth whereas clause, the words “wishes to express” are deleted and the more direct “reaffirms” is substituted. No change in meaning.

The final clause is the Therefore clause. Similar to the change in the fourth clause, the more direct word “will” is substituted for “declares its intent to”.

The words after “therein” are deleted. This change admittedly goes beyond technical in that it eliminates the specific language relating to “bearing arms”. But, earlier in the Resolution this language was specifically used in connection with rights embodied in the U.S and Wisconsin Constitutions, caselaw of the Supreme Court, and more generally in our affirmative statement opposing infringement of these rights by either the Federal or State governments. The language of the Therefore clause concludes with support “to preserve rights explicitly provided therein”, the therein referring to the Federal and State Constitutions. The Second Amendment is clearly an example in the Bill of Rights of a right being explicitly provided for.

It is my hope that the above language changes will enable all members of the committee to support this amendment without further amendment.

From a parliamentary perspective when we reach this item on the agenda, I will quickly express for the benefit of the committee and audience how I expect we will proceed. Essentially, we need a motion to bring the Resolution before the Committee. I will call on Supervisor Carlson to do so. I will then point out that several essentially technical amendments have been identified - as outlined above - and ask for an amendment that embraces these changes and places before the committee a “clean” resolution that is technically accurate. Assuming it is adopted, we will then proceed in the regular order with Supervisor Carlson being called upon first, Chairman Bob Long will be in attendance and I will do him the courtesy of being called upon for any remarks he wishes to make. When he concludes, the committee will continue its business in regular order with the opportunity for comment, discussion and amendment. It is possible that an amendment to indefinitely postpone might be offered but I believe it is more likely that if we were to vote on the “clean” amendment that we might achieve unanimity.

Please DO NOT RESPOND TO THIS EMAIL OR REPLY ALL. THIS IS NOT A SOLICITATION FOR YOUR VOTE BUT AN EXPLANATION OF HOW WE MIGHT PROCEED ON THIS ISSUE AND HOW WE GOT TO THE LANGUAGE THAT IS BEING CONSIDERED.

TEXT OF PROPOSED RESOLUTION THAT EMBODIES THE CHANGES OUTLINED ABOVE:

Resolution to Support the U.S. Constitution and Wisconsin Constitution and Rights Provided Therein

Whereas, the St Croix County Board of Supervisors supports the Constitution of the United States as the Supreme Law of our Nation; and

Whereas, the Second Amendment of the Constitution of the United States provides that “the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed” and the Constitution of the State of Wisconsin provides, that, “The people have the right to keep and bear arms for security, defense, hunting recreation or any other lawful purpose;” and

Whereas, the United States Supreme Court has affirmed this right to keep and bear Arms for traditionally lawful purposes; and

Whereas, the St Croix County Board of Supervisors reaffirms its commitment to the Constitution and the rights provided for therein against infringement by either the Federal or State government.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the St Croix County Board of Supervisors will uphold its oath to support the Federal and State Constitutions and to preserve rights explicitly provided therein.

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