2023 RES-343

## URGING THE RESIGNATION OF COMMISSIONER BOB SPINDELL FROM THE WISCONSIN ELECTIONS COMMISSION

The Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) was founded in 2016 and is tasked with carrying out a variety of responsibilities related to statewide elections administration. The WEC is a six member, bipartisan commission charged with implementing Wisconsin's election statutes and supporting Wisconsin's 1,850 county and municipal clerks.

The integrity and fairness of the electoral process are paramount to upholding democracy in the State of Wisconsin. As WEC oversees numerous elections each year and maintains a list of the total number of active registered voters, it is crucial the Wisconsin Elections Commission impartially and ethically upholds its duties and responsibilities granted to it by the Wisconsin State Legislature.

Recent events have raised significant concerns regarding the ability of the Wisconsin Elections Commission to fulfill its duties effectively and objectively. The statements of Commissioner Spindell, as reported by the Wisconsin State Journal, that Republicans "can be especially proud" of lowered turnout in Milwaukee during the 2022 election, "with the major reduction happening in the overwhelming Black and Hispanic areas," have contributed to the erosion of public trust and confidence in the Commission's ability to conduct free and fair elections.

It is imperative for public officials entrusted with overseeing the electoral process to uphold the highest standards of integrity, impartiality, and transparency.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Dane County Board of Supervisors hereby expresses its profound concern that Commissioner Spindell's recent public statements call into question his ability to prioritize the interests of the residents of Wisconsin, including Black and brown residents and voters, and has undermined the credibility and effectiveness of the WEC in upholding the integrity of the electoral process.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Dane County Board of Supervisors urges Commissioner Spindell to restore the integrity of the WEC by voluntarily resigning from his position as a WEC Commissioner.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Dane County Board of Supervisors calls upon all Commissioners of the Wisconsin Elections Commission to reaffirm their commitment to prioritize the interests of all residents of Wisconsin and to safeguard the democratic principles upon which our state and nation are founded.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be sent to Commissioner Spindell, all members of the Wisconsin Elections Commission, and Governor Evers.