

TOWN OF SCOTT
Burnett County, Wisconsin
Resolution in Opposition to
Wisconsin Department of Revenue Proposed Change from
Municipal Assessment to County Assessment
R2015-02

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Revenue (DOR) proposes to change from a municipal assessment process to county assessment process which requires 100% assessment of every property every year; and,

WHEREAS, this proposal will cause an unfathomable waste of taxpayer dollars through extraordinary cost increases; and,

WHEREAS, citizens will have access to only a few Board of Review proceedings throughout an entire county, which significantly decreases the accessibility to local knowledge to create accuracy in the assessment process; and,

WHEREAS, towns, cities, and villages will no longer be in control of their own costs as the county will send a bill without consideration of local cost constraints; and,

WHEREAS, the proposal is an unprecedented intrusion into local government by requiring the state to suggest a salary range for their assessment director and to work with the county to set a county budget and number of employees; and,

WHEREAS, the DOR has cited problems with assessments provided by assessors as part of their rationale for the change, but has never revoked an assessor license despite having the authority; and,

WHEREAS, over the last five years the DOR has already required additional training and detailed information from assessors to improve the process; and,

WHEREAS, this proposal kills private sector jobs and grows public sector jobs; and,

WHEREAS, the DOR cites Wisconsin as being one of the few states that has municipal assessment, but does not acknowledge the strong leadership of Wisconsin citizens, our state's dedication to local input, and the simple lack of town government in many states;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Scott, Burnett County, Wisconsin, does hereby oppose the implementation of county assessment in Wisconsin and asks for the proposal to be removed from the budget; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Towns are and have always been willing to work with the State of Wisconsin, fellow local government groups, and other stakeholders to continually improve the assessment process.

This resolution takes effect upon passage and posting in three (3) public places in the township.

Adopted this 9th day of March, 2015.

Michael Peterson, Chairman

Gary Lundberg, Supervisor

Kathy Young, Supervisor

Attest: Karen Wiggins, Clerk