No. 01142013

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SAME DAY VOTER REGISTRATION

WHEREAS, it is a self-evident truth that more, rather than less, voter participation is intrinsically desirable in a democracy and that a healthy democracy requires a high level of public participation; and

WHEREAS, for more than a century the State of Wisconsin has cultivated a proud tradition favoring public participation in the electoral process, as demonstrated by the fact that Wisconsin's voter turnout was third in the nation in the last six general elections; and

WHEREAS, states with same day voter registration have significantly higher voter participation rates than states that do not, as evidenced by studies showing 7-14% greater turnout in states with same day registration; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin is one of the most politically active states in the union and its citizens consider it a civic duty to express our opinions at the ballot box and regard the right to vote as a sacred trust; and

WHEREAS, voter registration is required for every citizen who is a new voter, has moved, or has had a name change; and

WHEREAS, municipal clerks, many of whom are part-time, find that same day voter registration contributes to a more efficient voter registration system, and election inspectors do not find same day registration to be burdensome and take pride in seeing that every qualified elector's voice is heard at the ballot box;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Liberty expresses its support for same day voter registration; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Municipal Clerk is directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, the President of the Wisconsin Senate, the Speaker of the Wisconsin Assembly, each legislator in the Wisconsin Senate and Assembly who represents constituents from Manitowoc County, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and to all Wisconsin Counties.

Dated this 14th day of January 2013.

Respectfully submitted by the Liberty Town Board

Bill Pitz, Chair