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State Treasurer of Wisconsin

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October 4, 2017

Milwaukee County Board 901 North 9th Street, Rm 201 Milwaukee, WI 53233

Dear Milwaukee County Supervisors,

As you know, County Executive Chris Abele is proposing a \$60 wheel tax. I ask that you reject his proposal and move to eliminate the current \$30 wheel tax in Milwaukee County.

Last April, voters in Milwaukee County overwhelmingly opposed the advisory referendum to go to \$60. As one of those voters, I can tell you Milwaukee County voters don't want a \$60 wheel tax or a \$30 wheel tax.

Three reasons I believe your constituents opposed the wheel tax are:

- 1. Opposed to increasing the tax burden
- 2. Many residents already pay \$20 to the City of Milwaukee for a wheel tax
- 3. Car owners don't want to pay \$30 to fund the bus system instead of local roads

I strongly believe a municipality should get voter approval for new taxes. Unfortunately, current state law allows you to raise revenue using wheel taxes, but you shouldn't.

I want to thank the supervisors that opposed the original \$30 wheel tax, including supervisors: Deanna Alexander, Eddie Cullen, Michael Mayo, Dan Sebring, Tony Staskunas, Steve Taylor and John Weishan.

The other ten supervisors raised taxes on all Milwaukee County residents, including their own constituents. Many of these constituents showed their disapproval at the voter box when 72% of voters opposed the advisory wheel tax referendum.

For example, in the City of Milwaukee, only the downtown area supported the tax increase, an area with lower car ownership rates. I found it interesting that in some wards in the City of Milwaukee, not a single person supported the \$60 wheel tax. Think about that, it is very rare for all voters in a ward to support/oppose any one position.

For these reasons, I would ask at least two of the ten supervisors that supported the wheel tax to reconsider their support. If at least two supervisors switch from a yes to a no on the wheel tax you can eliminate this tax. I ask the supervisors that supported the wheel tax last budget to look at the votes in their respective districts. Simply put, your voters don't support the wheel tax.

Here is a listing of supervisor districts and the vote opposed to the \$60 wheel tax:

District 2, Supervisor Sequanna Taylor, 84.2% opposed District 5, Supervisor Marcelia Nicholson, 66.5% opposed District 6, Supervisor Luigi Schmitt, 67.5% opposed District 8, Supervisor David Sartori, 79.8% opposed District 10, Supervisor Moore Omokunde, 68.6% opposed District 12, Supervisor Peggy Romo West, 73.5% opposed District 13, Supervisor Willie Johnson Jr., 63% opposed District 14, Supervisor Jason Haas, 72% opposed

The opposition to the wheel tax is widespread across the entire county.

I ask that you please end the wheel tax on your constituents and oppose any effort to increase the wheel tax.

Sincerely,

Matt Adamczyk

Wisconsin State Treasurer