

Explanatory Statement For Dark Store Referendum

Wisconsin Statute § 59.52(25) allows a county board to conduct a county-wide referendum for advisory purposes. This referendum will provide guidance to the State of Wisconsin legislature as to the will of the Jefferson County electorate about whether or not large retail stores, commonly known as big-box stores should continue to be allowed to assess their commercial property as if it was a vacant or “dark” store which may result in increased property taxes for other tax-paying entities and/or cuts in essential services provided by an affected municipality. Marking “yes” means that you want the State of Wisconsin legislature to pass a law preventing property tax reductions for large retail stores. Marking “no” means that you do not want the State of Wisconsin legislature to pass a law preventing property tax reductions for large retail stores.