



Resolution Supporting the Office of State Treasurer

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's April 3rd Spring Election will include a ballot measure asking voters if they want to remove the Office of the State Treasurer from the State Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the State Treasurer has been part of the state constitution since its inception in 1848, and this vote would permanently remove the office; and

WHEREAS, the State Treasurer acts as the watchdog of the people's money and is elected by the people. This check and balance in the executive branch of government provides effective oversight and increased transparency; and

WHEREAS, the State Treasurer is a member of the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands (BPCL) which manages about 80,000 acres of School Trust Lands, helps secure public access to land, and promotes conservation; and

WHEREAS, the State Treasurer helps to oversee the Common School Fund, the University Fund, the Normal School Fund, and the Agriculture College Fund which in 2017 provided:

- \$32.1 million for public school library materials and technology needs.
- \$122 million in low interest loans to municipalities for public purpose projects to include economic development, local infrastructure, building repairs and improvements, and refinancing existing liabilities to reduce future borrowing costs.
- \$102 million to refinance critical pension liabilities to retired public employees.
- \$28 million to the University of Wisconsin System; and

WHEREAS, the Eau Claire School District received an allocation of \$379,768 from the Common School Fund in the 2016-17 school year. This is the only source of funding for district library materials and IMC resources for curriculum support; and

WHEREAS, the Eau Claire School Board believes that maintaining a healthy Common School Fund prioritizes literacy and educational program support without burdening taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the Eau Claire School Board believes that fiscal responsibility is paramount to ensure equal and equitable access to a quality education for all students; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Association of School Boards has stated, "WASB opposes any legislation to repeal, modify, or jeopardize the common school fund;" and

WHEREAS, removing the office of Treasurer would make Wisconsin the only state without a financial officer.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of the Eau Claire School Board encourage the citizens of Eau Claire and Wisconsin to vote "No" on the ballot measure seeking to remove the Office of State Treasurer.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the School Board of the Eau Claire Area School District has executed this resolution this 21st day of February, 2018.

Signed on behalf of the Eau Claire Area School Board,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Hambuch-Boyle". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends across the name.

Chris Hambuch-Boyle, President