STARKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RESOLUTION 2019-_/6_

RECOMMENDATION TO ELECTION BOARD TO COMMENCE PROCESS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF VOTE CENTERS

WHEREAS, THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF STARKE COUNTY, INDIANA (the "Commissioners") are informed that pursuant to Ind. Code Chapter 3-11-18.1, counties in Indiana may adopt and implement a vote center model ("Vote Centers") for elections held in the county; and,

WHEREAS, the Commissioners, being duly advised, find that Vote Centers are becoming widely implemented, and are rapidly becoming the mainstream model for elections in Indiana. Furthermore, the Commissioners find that the implementation of Vote Centers at convenient sites throughout the county will make conduct of elections more modern and cost effective, but more importantly, will make it more convenient for voters to engage in our nation's precious tradition of democracy by enabling them to cast their ballots with minimal disruption to their personal responsibilities and schedules; and,

WHEREAS, the Commissioners are further informed by the County Election Board and others, that adoption and implementation of Vote Centers requires strict compliance with I.C. § 3-11-18.1-3 and all other relevant statutes, rules, regulations and practices. In general terms (and not as a detailed roadmap), this requires preparation of a plan, public outreach including *inter alia* public hearings, approval by the County Election Board, resolutions by both the Commissioners and the County Council, and proper and timely filing of the final adopted Vote Center plan with the Indiana Election Division; and,

WHEREAS, the Commissioners hereby express their recognition of the importance of crafting a plan of implementation of Vote Centers in Starke County that will appropriately address the August 5, 2019

needs and wishes of all citizens throughout Starke County, including those for whom travel or scheduling may be difficult, or may face other challenges.

THE COMMISSIONERS HEREBY EXPRESS THEIR TENTATIVE SUPPORT FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF VOTE CENTERS IN STARKE COUNTY AND RESPECTFULLY REQUEST AND RECOMMEND to the Election Board of Starke County that they commence the process necessary for adoption and implementation of Vote Centers in Starke County as soon as is practical.

ALL OF WHICH IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF STARKE COUNTY, and approved on this _____ day of August, 2019, by the following vote:

Board of Commissioners of Starke County, Indiana

VOTE

425

Charles

Charles Chesak, President

Kathryn Norem, Vice President

Bryan Cavender,

ATTEST:

Rachel Osterreich, Auditor Of Starke County Indiana