

ADVISORY REFERENDA REGARDING MINIMUM WAGE (2014) AND MANDATORY SICK LEAVE (2016)



Law Department

DATE: June 19, 2017

To: Village President and Board of Trustees
Village Manager

From: [Jeffrey M. Stein](#), Corporation Counsel

SUBJECT: Advisory Referenda Regarding Minimum Wage and Mandatory Sick Leave Policies.

In 2014, a non-binding referendum regarding a raise to the State minimum wage appeared on the ballot for all Illinois voters. In 2016, a non-binding referendum regarding the imposition of mandatory earned sick time appeared on the ballot of all Cook County voters. This memorandum will provide the exact language of each referendum, as well as, the State, Cook County, New Trier Township and Wilmette (as conditioned in the footnote) vote totals.¹ All information gathered was from either the State Board of Elections or the Cook County Clerk's databases, unless otherwise noted.

November 4, 2014 Gubernatorial General Election Referendum Question (Minimum Wage)

On November 4, 2014, every voter in the State, voting in that election, had the opportunity to vote "Yes" or "No" on the following advisory, non-binding referendum question:

Shall the minimum wage in Illinois for adults over the age of 18 be raised to \$10 per hour by January 1, 2015?

The election results for that referendum is as follows:

Jurisdiction	Ballots Cast	Votes Cast	Yes (percent)	No
State of Illinois	3,669,886	3,504,697	2,339,173 (66.74%)	1,165,524 (33.26%)
Suburban Cook County	696,403	645,804	483,066 (74.80%)	162,738 (25.20%)

¹ The State of Illinois and Cook County election results are organized as results for the entire State, Cook County or by individual Townships within Illinois Counties. Accordingly, official election results are not organized by specific municipalities, and therefore; the "Wilmette" totals are an estimate of the total votes cast in Wilmette based upon the New Trier Township precincts located within Wilmette. The small Wilmette portion of Precinct 35 in Northfield Township is not accounted for in this calculation.

New Trier Township	25,509	23,551	15,634 (66.38%)	7,917 (33.62%)
Wilmette (see footnote)	11,646	10,637	7,527 (70.76%)	3,110 (29.23%)

November 8, 2016 Presidential General Election Referendum Question (Earned Sick Time)

On November 8, 2016, every voter in Cook County, voting at that election, had the opportunity to vote “Yes” or “No” on the following advisory, non-binding referendum question:

Shall Illinois enact the Earned Sick Time for Employees Act which will allow Illinois workers to earn up to 40 hours of sick time a year to take care of their own health or a family member's health?

The election results for that referendum is as follows:

Jurisdiction	Ballots Cast	Votes Cast	Yes (percent)	No
State of Illinois	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
Suburban Cook County	1,089,431	999,297	816,065 (81.66%)	183,232 (18.34%)
New Trier Township	33,219	30,499	21,280 (69.77%)	9,219 (30.23%)
Wilmette (see footnote)	16,125	14,840	10,935 (73.68%)	3,905 (26.31%)