

2 **RESOLUTION: Support Increased County Child Support Funding**

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4 **TO THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

5 **WHEREAS**, on behalf of the State of Wisconsin, Winnebago County administers the Child Support
6 Enforcement Program for the purpose of providing services to Winnebago County residents including paternity
7 establishment, obtaining child support and health insurance orders for children, and enforcing and modifying those
8 orders; and

9 **WHEREAS**, our children’s well-being, economic security, and success in life are enhanced by parents who
10 provide financial and emotional support; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the Winnebago County Child Support Agency ensures that parents take responsibility for the
12 care and well-being of their children, supports the involvement of parents in their children’s lives, and provides
13 services to both custodial and noncustodial parents; and

14 **WHEREAS**, The Child Support Enforcement Program is an effective investment in Wisconsin’s future as
15 child support increases self-sufficiency, reduces child poverty, and has a positive effect on children’s well-being; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin’s Child Support Enforcement Program is ranked 2nd in the nation for collecting
17 current support; and

18 **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin’s Child Support Enforcement Program is cost-effective, collecting an average of
19 \$5.56 in support for every dollar invested in the program; and

20 **WHEREAS**, county child support agencies collected \$934 Million in child support during 2017, 95% of which
21 went directly to families while 5% reimbursed public assistant programs; and

22 **WHEREAS**, child support agencies save taxpayer dollars by establishing health insurance orders for 97% of
23 cases, which reduces state Medicaid costs by moving children from public assistance to private insurance; and

24 **WHEREAS**, state funding for child support services has not increased above the 2007 funding level, while
25 county agency costs have steadily increased due to growing caseloads, inflation, and new federal regulations; and

26 **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin’s strong performance in child support is at risk without additional state funding.
27 Diminished performance would result in reduced federal funding to Wisconsin; and

28 **WHEREAS**, decreased federal funding would lead to less funding for Winnebago County’s Child Support
29 Agency. This could lead to reductions in child support enforcement staff and services and reduced child support
30 collections; and

31 **WHEREAS**, new state investments in child support are amplified by a generous federal match in which every
32 \$1 of state General Purpose Revenue (GPR) grants invested in child support programs generates \$2 in federal
33 matching funds.

34 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby
35 requests that state funding for county child support agencies be increased by \$1.5 Million General Purpose Revenue
36 (GPR) grants in each fiscal year of the 2019-2021 Wisconsin state budgets, which will generate approximately \$3
37 Million in additional federal funding each year. This investment will ensure that counties continue to effectively
38 provide economic support to our children.
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41 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby directs the
42 Winnebago County Clerk to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Office of the Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
43 State Senators and State Representatives representing Winnebago County constituents, the Secretary of the
44 Wisconsin Department of Administration, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and each of Wisconsin's 72 counties
45 for consideration.

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48 Respectfully submitted by:
49 **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

50 Committee Vote: **9-0**
51 Vote Required for Passage: **Majority of Those Present**

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53 Approved by the Winnebago County Executive this ____ day of _____, 2019.

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Mark L Harris
Winnebago County Executive