



**DOOR COUNTY**

**Resolution No. 2016-19**

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE UW- EXTENSION REORGANIZATION PLAN**

**TO THE DOOR COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

ROLL CALL Board Members	Aye	Nay	Exc.
AUSTAD			
BACON			
BRANN			
BUR			X
ENGLEBERT			
ENIGL			
FISHER			
GUNNLAUGSSON			
HAINES			
HALSTEAD			
KOCH			
KOHOUT			
KOK			
LIENAU			
MOELLER			
NEINAS			
SCHULTZ			
SITTE			
SOHNS			
VIRLEE			
ZIPPERER			

1 **WHEREAS**, The process used to develop the UW-Extension Reorganization Plan was flawed,  
2 providing inadequate opportunity for meaningful input and consideration of County concerns; and

3  
4 **WHEREAS**, The plan, as proposed, jeopardizes the partnership between UW-System and  
5 Wisconsin Counties, a partnership built on communication, collaboration and engagement; and

6  
7 **WHEREAS**, The current Cooperative Extension system has a proven track record of success  
8 for more than 100 years as a single County based model for governance, locally set levy  
9 contribution and County determined educational programming priorities under the oversight of a  
10 County Agriculture and Extension Education Committee designated by the elected County Board;  
11 and

12  
13 **WHEREAS**, The reorganization plan imposes a drastic change on rural county extension  
14 programs, shifts a greater portion of Extension resources to urban areas, reduces educator  
15 positions in rural counties, and adds a new layer of administrative overhead not accountable to  
16 county boards; and

17  
18 **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin Counties are unlikely to continue the current level of county tax levy  
19 support in future years if direct educational services are significantly decreased, thereby making  
20 the proposed reorganization plan reckless and financially unsustainable.

21  
22 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** That the Door County Board of Supervisors herein  
23 assembled, hereby opposes the UW-Cooperative Extension reorganization plan approved by  
24 Chancellor Sandeen on February 10, 2016.

25  
26 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That Door County is not willing to continue providing local tax  
27 levy funding at the current level if direct county educator services are decreased as described in  
28 the plan while eliminating accountability to the County Agriculture and Extension Education  
29 Committee and County Board.

30  
31 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That Door County welcomes the opportunity to be engaged in a  
32 meaningful process of developing a more workable reorganization plan.

33  
34 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to all 72 Wisconsin  
35 County Boards/Extension Education Committee Chairs and County Extension Department Heads;  
36 the Wisconsin Counties Association; County Executives and Administrators; Governor Walker;  
37 President Ray Cross and the Board of Regents; Senator Frank Lasee; Representative Joel  
38 Kitchens, Assembly Speaker Voss; and Senate Majority Leader Fitzgerald.

**SUBMITTED BY: AGRICULTURE & EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Ray Englebert, Chair

Randy Halstead

John Bur

Don Sitte

John Neinas

**BOARD ACTION**

Vote Required: Majority Vote of a Quorum

Motion to Approve Adopted

1st Englebert Defeated

2nd Kok

Yes: \_\_\_ No: \_\_\_ Exc: \_\_\_

Reviewed by:

Reviewed by:

**FISCAL IMPACT** Door County has budgeted County Tax Levy of \$255,339 for 2016 for the Door County UW Extension Department; adoption of this resolution will not change that. The effect on future years' budgets is unknown at this time. MEJ

**Certification:**  
I, Jill M. Lau, Clerk of Door County, hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution that was adopted on the 22nd day of March 2016 by the Door County Board of Supervisors.

Jill M. Lau  
County Clerk, Door County