

Pepin County
COPY

RESOLUTION NO: 54-16

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF WISCONSIN STATUTE CHANGES AUTHORIZING COUNTIES TO CONTRACT WITH EACH OTHER TO PROVIDE AND RECEIVE CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES, INCLUDING ACCESS AND SCREENING OF REPORTS

WHEREAS, under the direction of the Department of Children and Families Legal Counsel, counties do not have authority to receive child protection access reports, screen reports or investigate (outside of conflict of interest cases). This is due to an Attorney General's Opinion, 1987, discussing authority to delegate certain responsibilities under s.48.981, and;

WHEREAS, Counties may benefit through shared expertise, assisting duties during vacancies and high demand time periods, from sharing expertise across counties through contracts and Memo of Understandings (MOU's), and;

WHEREAS, The Child Abuse and Neglect (CAN) Reporting Partnership which includes counties of Chippewa, Monroe, Pepin, and Taylor are designing a process that will receive child protection access reports and screening as a multi county entity and does not have statutory authority to implement, and;

WHEREAS, The CAN Reporting Partnership has been working in conjunction with the Department of Children and Family to design a partnership that will comply with Wisconsin Statutes, Rules, and Standards that will increase the safety of children in providing expertise while receiving child protection reports and making screening decisions, and;

WHEREAS, the safety of children and families is a high priority for Wisconsin Counties and creating statutory authority will increase counties ability to maintain expertise in child protection services, and;

WHEREAS, individual counties across Wisconsin are experiencing challenges in hiring, training, and retaining expert child protection staff that have the depth of knowledge needed to complete mandated services in keeping children safe. While statutory authority to share services across counties would allow counties to provide imperative services to children and families, and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Pepin County Board of Supervisor's hereby supports the necessary statutory changes that would authorize counties to contract child protection services with each other.

RECOMMENDED BY THE PEPIN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES BOARD:

Dorothy Thompson
Dorothy Thompson, Chair

COMMITTEE MEMBERS VOTE
5 0 2 0
In Favor Oppose Absent Abstain



FISCAL IMPACT REVIEWED: N/A
Samela Dewitt
Finance Director

X _____
Recommend Not Recommended

