

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-13

RESOLUTION BY THE RACINE COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REQUESTING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO REVISE ITS GUIDANCE ON EMPLOYMENT SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

WHEREAS, facility-based programs, such as day programs, training centers, and sheltered workshops, give Wisconsin residents with developmental disabilities the opportunity to gain new skills, meet new people, and make meaningful contributions to society; and

WHEREAS, many Wisconsin residents with developmental disabilities choose to participate in programs offered by facility-based day programs, training centers, and sheltered workshops and receive great personal and social benefit from doing so; and

WHEREAS, the parents, guardians, and caregivers of many Wisconsin residents with developmental disabilities are very supportive of facility-based day programs, training centers, and sheltered workshops and can attest to the benefits their programs provide; and

WHEREAS, often, funding for services provided by facility-based day programs, training centers, and sheltered workshops is obtained through home and community-based services Medicaid waivers granted under section 1915 (c) of the federal Social Security Act; and

WHEREAS, Medicaid waiver programs, including home and community-based services waiver programs, have been used in Wisconsin for many years to provide services for individuals with developmental disabilities and allow states to provide a range of services to Medicaid-eligible individuals who would otherwise require institutional care; and

WHEREAS, according to information from the Department of Health Services, on September 1, 2016, there were 19,114 individuals with developmental disabilities receiving services through the Family Care and Family Care Partnership programs, which are Medicaid waiver programs; and

WHEREAS, there is growing concern that regulations adopted by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services of the United States Department of Health and Human Services and contained in 42 CFR 441.301 significantly change the home and community-based services Medicaid waiver program and will reduce opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities to participate in programs offered by facility-based day programs, training centers, and sheltered workshops; and

WHEREAS, individuals with developmental disabilities should be free to choose the settings in which they receive services, including facility-based day programs, training centers, and sheltered workshops;

3 **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Racine County Board of
4 Supervisors, that the members of Racine County Board strongly urge the Centers for
5 Medicare and Medicaid Services to reconsider its changes concerning participation in
6 programs offered by facility-based day programs, training centers, and sheltered
7 workshops and permit individuals with developmental disabilities to freely choose the
8 settings in which they wish to receive employment services; and,

9 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Racine County Clerk shall send a copy of
10 this resolution to the President of the United States, the United States Secretary of
11 Health and Human Services, the Director of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid
12 Services, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the
13 President Pro Tempore and Secretary of the United States Senate, and the members of
14 the Wisconsin Congressional delegation.

15 Respectfully submitted,

16
17 1st Reading 5-23-17

**HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE**

18
19
20 2nd Reading 5-23-17

Robert N. Miller
Robert N. Miller, Chairman

21
22 **BOARD ACTION**
23 Adopted yes
24 For 19
25 Against 0
26 Absent 2

Donnie Snow
Donnie Snow, Vice-Chairman

Mike Dawson
Mike Dawson, Secretary

27
28 **VOTE REQUIRED:** Majority

Brett A. Nielsen
Brett A. Nielsen

29
30 Prepared by:
31 Corporation Counsel

Pamela Zenner-Richards
Pamela Zenner-Richards

Katherine Buske
Katherine Buske

32
33
34
35
36
37
38 **The foregoing legislation adopted by the County Board of Supervisors of
39 Racine County, Wisconsin, is hereby:**

40 **Approved:** y

41 **Vetoed:** _____

42
43 **Date:** 5/26/17

44
45 Jonathan Delagrave
46 **Jonathan Delagrave, County Executive**