

BARRON COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. 2018 - 42

Resolution in Support of Increased County Child Support Funding

TO THE BARRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

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2 **WHEREAS**, Barron County administers the Child Support Enforcement Program on
3 behalf of the state, providing services to Barron County residents including paternity establishment,
4 obtaining child support and health insurance orders for children, and enforcing and modifying those
5 orders; and

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

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

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

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18 **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin's Child Support Enforcement Program is ranked 2nd in the nation
19 for collecting current support; and

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

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24 **WHEREAS**, County child support agencies collected \$934 Million in child support during
25 2017, 95% of which went directly to families while 5% reimbursed public assistance programs;
26 and

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

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32 **WHEREAS**, State funding for county child support services has not increased above the
33 2007 funding level while county agency costs have steadily increased due to growing caseloads,
34 inflation and new federal regulations; and

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

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39 **WHEREAS**, decreased federal funding would lead to less funding for Barron County's
40 child support agency. This could lead to reductions in child support enforcement staff and services
41 and reduced child support collections; and

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43 **WHEREAS**, new state investments in child support are amplified by a generous federal
44 match. Every \$1 of state GPR invested in the Child Support Program generates \$2 in federal
45 matching funds; and

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47 **WHEREAS**, this resolution was approved by the Executive Committee on October 31,
48 2018, on a vote of 8 - 0, with Okey, Hanson, Thompson, Heinecke, McRoberts, Rindsig, Bartlett
49 and Buchanan voting in favor and no members voting against. Horstman was absent.

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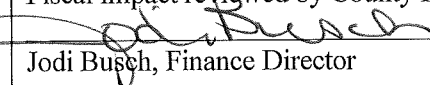
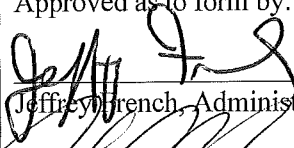
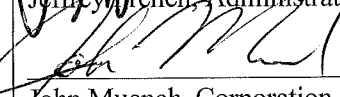
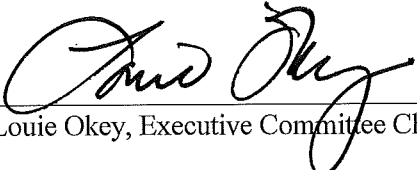
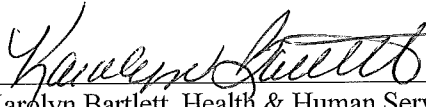
WHEREAS, this resolution was approved by the Health & Human Services Board on October 22, 2018, on a vote of 8 - 0, with Bartlett, Heil, Mommsen, Pannier, Skoug, Kolpack, Knutson and Moen voting in favor and no members voting against. Fladten, Janty, Nedland, Soderquist and Jensen were absent.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Barron County Board of Supervisors respectfully requests that state funding for county child support agencies be increased by \$1.5 million GPR in each fiscal year of the 2019-21 Wisconsin state budget, which will generate approximately \$3 million in additional federal funding each year. This investment will ensure that counties can continue to effectively provide economic support to our children.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the County Clerk to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, State Senators and State Representatives representing Barron County, the Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Administration, and the Wisconsin Counties Association for consideration.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that publication of this resolution may occur through posting in accordance with Section 985.02 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

OFFERED THIS 5th day of November, 2018.

<p>Number of readings required: One (X) Two ()</p> <p>Vote required for passage: Majority (X) 2/3 Entire Board (20) ()</p> <p>Source of funding: Budgeted () General Fund () Grant () Contingency () Other (X) Details: N/A</p> <p>Fiscal impact: - Current year total amount: \$ - 0 - - Future years total amount: \$ - 0 - - Effect on tax levy – current year - \$ - 0 - - Effect on tax levy – future years - \$ - 0 -</p> <p>Fiscal impact reviewed by County Finance Department  Jodi Busch, Finance Director</p> <p>Approved as to form by:  Jeffrey French, Administrator</p> <p> John Muench, Corporation Counsel</p>	<p> Louie Okey, Executive Committee Chair</p> <p> Karolyn Bartlett, Health & Human Services Board Chair</p> <p>(The Committee Chair signature verifies the action taken by the Committee.)</p> <p>Board Action: Adopted (X) Failed () Tabled ()</p> <p>Motion: (Thompson/Schradle) to approve the consent agenda including the remainder of the resolutions. Carried.</p>
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