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MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Members of the Joint Committee on Finance

FROM: Marcie Rainbolt, Government Affairs Associate

DATE: May 15, 2019

SUBJECT: 2019-2021 State Biennial Budget – Items before the Joint Committee on Finance on May 16, 2019

In regard to items scheduled for consideration by the Joint Committee on Finance on May 16, 2019, please consider the following recommendations of the Wisconsin Counties Association:

RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY	
LFB PAPER #	RECOMMENDATION
Shared Revenue and Tax Relief	Support stand-alone budget motion to increase the competitive bidding threshold for local units of government

Attached please find rationale for the items listed above. Additional information can be obtained by contacting the WCA office at 608-663-7188.

LFB PAPER

SHARED REVENUE AND TAX RELIEF

RECOMMENDATION: Support stand-alone budget motion to increase the competitive bidding threshold for local units of government

Rationale:

- Competitive bidding for local units of government has not been altered since 1999 placing undue and unnecessary burden on counties and other local governments.
- Increasing the competitive bidding threshold from the current level of \$25,000 would come at a time when both the cost of labor and building materials continue to rise.
- Increasing the competitive bidding threshold to \$100,000 would provide relief and generate efficiencies for county purchasing agents. Further, a threshold of \$100,000 would allow for small projects to be streamlined and allow them to be completed in a more timely and efficient manner.