



RESOLUTION # 12-6/18

TO: HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AS Amended

ITEM # 6-16

BOARD ACTION

Adopted:
For: 21
Against: 1
Abstain: -
Abs/Excd: 7
Vote Req: 5
Other Action: _____

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTION

Adopted:
For: 9
Against: 0
Abstain: 0
Abs/Excd: 0

RE: WISCONSIN WORKER SHORTAGES AND NEED FOR IMMIGRATION REFORM

WHEREAS, the Department of Health Services, Division of Long Term Care projects the number of individuals over the age of 65 will rise to almost 24% of Wisconsin's population, up from 13.7% in 2010; and

WHEREAS, the 7 Rivers Alliance noted that the local worker shortage in "The Workforce Innovation for a Strong Economy (WISE)" plan indicates that the 7 Rivers Region needs to attract and retain 1,500-2,000 more workers each year during the next decade; and

WHEREAS, U.S. Senator Ron Johnson, Chair of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee sent a strong message on the need for more workers during a hearing to discuss bipartisan calls for more visas for temporary foreign workers noting "There's not one manufacturing plant in Wisconsin, not one dairy farm, not one resort that can hire enough people"; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's Public Policy Forum projects a statewide worker shortage of 196,009 by 2024 which does not take into account the many additional job openings that will be created as baby boomers retire, which will contribute to an even larger worker shortage by 2040; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's labor force is expected to increase by only 0.2%, while total jobs in the state are expected to increase by 6% between 2014 and 2024; and

WHEREAS, the annual survey by United Van Lines ranks Wisconsin in the top 10 of outbound moves, with 55% of the 2,405 moves being out of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the Public Policy Forum notes that applicants will need training and education to fill job vacancies, so workforce development efforts will need to address that 60% of the projected jobs will require on-the-job training, 10% will require postsecondary training or an Associate's degree and 30% will require a bachelor's degree or higher; and

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Times reports 11 million undocumented immigrants are living in the United States today, accounting for 3.5% of the U.S. population and 5.1% of the U.S. workforce; and

WHEREAS, without the labor of undocumented immigrants, workforce shortages would be even more apparent, affecting farming and Wisconsin's dairy industry; and

WHEREAS, undocumented immigrants paid about \$72 million in state and local taxes in Wisconsin in 2014, according to the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy. The Institute estimates that if those immigrants were given full legal status, they would have paid nearly \$20 million more.

RE: WISCONSIN WORKER SHORTAGES AND IMMIGRATION REFORM

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the State of Wisconsin should encourage the Federal Government to develop and implement a long-term plan for immigration reform that maximizes legal immigration and improves the visa process for temporary workers as a means to reduce the impact of worker shortages throughout Wisconsin and the nation.


Representative Kind

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to U.S. Senators Johnson and Baldwin, Governor Walker, Senator Shilling, Representatives Doyle and Billings and the Wisconsin Counties Association for consideration at the Annual Business meeting to become a part of the WCA legislative platform.

FISCAL NOTE: There is no direct budgetary cost to La Crosse County.

Date: June 13, 2018

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR

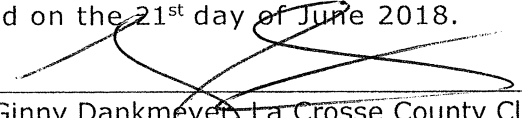
Date: June 13, 2018

RECORDING CLERK

	Reviewed Only	Recommended	Not Recommended	
Co. Admin.	<u> </u>	<u>50</u>	<u> </u>	Requested By: Steve O'Malley
Fin. Director	<u>500</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Date Requested: June 5, 2018
Corp. Counsel	<u>NS</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Drafted By: Steve O'Malley
Board Chair	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	

Adopted by the La Crosse County Board this 21 Day of June, 2018

STATE OF WISCONSIN
COUNTY OF LA CROSSE

I, Ginny Dankmeyer, County Clerk of La Crosse County do hereby certify that this document is a true and correct copy of the original resolution required by law to be in my custody and which the County Board of Supervisors of La Crosse County adopted at a meeting held on the 21st day of June 2018.


Ginny Dankmeyer, La Crosse County Clerk