WHEREAS, the Department of Children and Families provides funding to counties through the Children and Family Aids allocation for the provision of child abuse and neglect services, which is described generally as child welfare services and includes prevention, access, assessment, ongoing services, and out-of-home placement costs; and

WHEREAS, State based funding for child welfare services has not increased since the Department of Children and Families was created in 2009; and

WHEREAS, St. Croix County’s average yearly Children and Family Aids allocation from 2011 through 2016 was $512,968; and

WHEREAS, the St. Croix County total 2016 Children and Family Aids allocation is $524,204; and

WHEREAS, the estimated 2017 tax levy to support the provision of child welfare services in St. Croix County is $1.1 million; and

WHEREAS, over the past few years, the child welfare workload has increased in all counties across the state; and

WHEREAS, the number of child protective services (CPS) referrals has increased by approximately 30% since 2007 from 55,895 referrals in 2007 to 72,698 in 2014; and

WHEREAS, the number of children in out-of-home care has increased approximately 8% since 2011 from 7,653 in 2011 to 8,258 in 2015; and

WHEREAS, the number of screened-in CPS reports has increased by approximately 9% since 2011 from 18,706 in 2011 to 20,384 in 2015; and

WHEREAS, the number of Children in Need of Protection and Services (CHIPS) petitions filed with the court has increased 12.5% from 2008 to 2015; and

WHEREAS, St. Croix County specific data trends is generally consistent with statewide trends; and

WHEREAS, the number of St. Croix County child protective services (CPS) referrals has increased by approximately 20% percent since 2011 from 1,141 referrals in 2011 to 1,363 in 2015; and

WHEREAS, the number of St. Croix County children in out-of-home care and kinship care relative placement has remained relatively consistent with an average 41 children from 2011 to 2015; and
WHEREAS, the number of Children in Need of Protection and Services (CHIPS) petitions filed with the St. Croix County court has increased 126% since 2011 through August of 2016 from 23 in 2011 to 52 in August of 2016; and

WHEREAS, the number of St. Croix County screened-in CPS reports has increased by approximately 46% since 2011 from 267 in 2011 to 390 in 2015; and

WHEREAS, in the 2016 budget, the St. Croix County Board of Supervisors supported the addition of a child protection assessment worker with no additional Children and Family Aids allocation for the position; and

WHEREAS, in the 2016 budget, operational changes were made with existing staff to dedicate additional time for child protection referrals; and

WHEREAS, the leading cause of these increases is the use of heroin, opiates, and methamphetamines by parents or caregivers; and

WHEREAS, it is critical that counties have the resources necessary to ensure the safety of children in every corner of the state.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Croix County Board of Supervisors does hereby request that the State of Wisconsin, in the 2017-19 state biennial budget, increase funding to counties in the Children and Family Aids allocation to assist counties in serving the increasing number of children and families in the child welfare system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Scott Walker, Department of Children and Families Secretary Eloise Anderson, Department of Administration Secretary Scott Neitzel, area legislators, and the Wisconsin Counties Association.
**Legal – Fiscal – Administrative Approvals:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legal Note:</th>
<th>The fiscal impact is undetermined at this time as staff explores the options available should state funding not be increased.</th>
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**Scott L. Cox, Corporation Counsel**

9/8/2016

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Robert Mittet, Finance Director</th>
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9/8/2016

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<tr>
<th>Patrick Thompson, County Administrator</th>
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9/8/2016

**09/13/16 Health & Human Services Board APPROVED**

RESULT: APPROVED [6 TO 0]

AYES: Logelin, Babbitt, Kiesler, Anderson, Leibfried, Ramsay

ABSTAIN: Tom Coulter, Bob Long

ABSENT: Deb Rasmussen

**Vote Confirmation.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Christopher Babbitt, Supervisor</th>
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9/20/2016

**St. Croix County Board of Supervisors Action:**

Roll Call - Vote Requirement – Majority of Supervisors Present
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESULT:</th>
<th>ADOPTED [15 TO 0]</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MOVER:</td>
<td>Christopher Babbitt, Supervisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECONDER:</td>
<td>Paulette Anderson, Supervisor</td>
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<tr>
<td>ABSTAIN:</td>
<td>Tom Coulter, Bob Long</td>
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<tr>
<td>ABSENT:</td>
<td>Roy Sjoberg, Laurie Bergren</td>
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This Resolution was Adopted by the St. Croix County Board of Supervisors on October 4, 2016

Cindy Campbell, County Clerk