

RESOLUTION #R-3-16

CHANGE STATE OF WISCONSIN POLICY OF  
TERMINATION OF PUBLIC BENEFITS UPON INCARCERATION

**WHEREAS**, the State of Wisconsin's current policy is to terminate public benefits upon incarceration;

**WHEREAS**, this policy results in barriers to treatment upon release from jail for offenders with medical, mental health and alcohol or other drug (AODA) needs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Sheriff's Independent Mental Health Panel recommended that Marathon County advocate for a legislative change to the state requirement to terminate public benefits upon incarceration; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the goal of Marathon County to be the safest county in the state of Wisconsin; and

**WHEREAS**, reducing recidivism in offender populations with mental health and AODA concerns requires access to treatment not only during incarceration but upon transition to the community and;

**WHEREAS**, offenders access to treatment is often hindered by loss of insurance under the Affordable Care Act and/or ability to pay for treatment upon release; and

**WHEREAS**, the Marathon County has created a social work position in the jail to assist with effective transitioning of offenders to the community; and

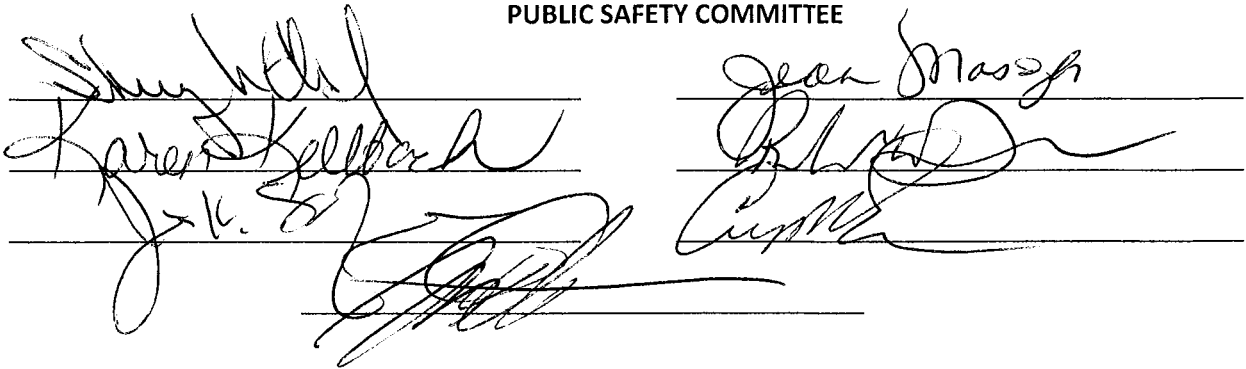
**WHEREAS**, the Marathon County Jail social worker spends the majority of her time assisting with applications to reinstate terminated public benefits upon release and has little time to address other criminogenic needs of offenders ; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the County Board of Supervisors of the County of Marathon does hereby ordain and resolve and request that the State of Wisconsin legislature review the current law and policy regarding termination of public benefits during incarceration and respectfully requires that law and policy be changed to a suspension for public benefits including insurance coverage under the Affordable Care Act.

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED AND RESOLVED**, that the Marathon County Board of Supervisors authorizes County Administration to make this request of Marathon County's State of Wisconsin elected officials.

Respectfully submitted this 14<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2016.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

The signature block contains five handwritten signatures on horizontal lines. On the left side, there are three signatures: the top one is partially obscured, the middle one is 'Karen Kellner', and the bottom one is 'J.K. S...'. On the right side, there are two signatures: the top one is 'Jean Massie' and the bottom one is 'C...'. A fifth signature is written across the bottom lines, overlapping the bottom of the left-side signatures.

FISCAL IMPACT: Unknown at this time.

STATE OF WISCONSIN )  
 )SS.  
COUNTY OF MARATHON )

I, Nan Kottke, County Clerk in and for Marathon County, Wisconsin, hereby certify that the attached Resolution #R-3-16 was adopted by the Marathon County Board of Supervisors at their Adjourned Annual meeting which was held January 19, 2016.



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Nan Kottke  
Marathon County Clerk

S E A L