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RESOLUTION – R2017-05-01

TO: The Honorable Chairperson and Members of the Oconto County Board of Supervisors

RE: **OPPOSING MAKING COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICERS OPTIONAL, ALLOWING NON-VETERANS TO FILL THE CVSO POSITION, OR CONSOLIDATING OR REGIONALIZING COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICES IN WISCONSIN**

WHEREAS, Wisconsin Statutes Section 45.80 requires each county to elect a County Veterans Service Officer who is a Wisconsin resident and who served under honorable conditions on active duty in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, County Veterans Service Officers are responsible for a high percentage of veterans' claims at any given time at the VA Regional Office in Milwaukee; and

WHEREAS, County Veterans Service Officers are a major stakeholder in assisting veterans with obtaining more than \$2.7 billion in VA benefits annually in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, County Veterans Service Officers are invaluable to all veterans but especially elderly and disabled veterans in the local community; and

WHEREAS, County Veterans Service Officers are the only veterans' advocates when dealing with the VA who serve veterans' in their local community.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the county of Oconto joins other counties in the state of Wisconsin, to express their desire to the Wisconsin State Legislature adamantly oppose any future efforts to make County Veterans Service Officers optional.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the county of Oconto joins other counties in the state of Wisconsin, to express their desire to the Wisconsin State Legislature adamantly oppose any efforts to allow non-veterans to fill the positions of County Veterans Service Officers.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the county of Oconto joins other counties in the state of Wisconsin, to express their desire to the Wisconsin State Legislature adamantly oppose any efforts to allow any consolidation and/or regionalization of County Veterans Service Offices.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to all Oconto County's State Senators and Assembly Representatives, to the Wisconsin Counties Association, and to the President of the County Veterans Service Officers Association of Wisconsin.

Submitted this 18th day of May, 2017.

BY: Finance & Insurance Committee

Leland T. Rymer, Chairperson
Paul Bednarik
Gregory Sekela
Doug McMahon
Gary Frank

STATE OF WISCONSIN } I, Kim Pytieski
County Oconto } do hereby certify
that the above is a true and correct copy of the
original now on file in the office of the County Clerk and
that it was adopted by the Oconto County Board of
Supervisors on this date.
Date: 5/18/17 Kim Pytieski
(Seal) County Clerk

Reviewed by Corporation Counsel:

Adopted by Vote:

CLM

05.10.2017

Ayes: 27 Nays: 2 Absent: 2

Initials of

Date

Corp. Counsel

Reviewed