

RESOLUTION # 17-18

RESOLUTION OPPOSING SB713/AB857 RELATING TO ELIMINATING AUTHORITY OF THE BCPL TO MAKE STATE TRUST FUND LOANS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

WHEREAS, 2017 Senate Bill 713 and 2017 Assembly Bill 857 were introduced January 2018 to eliminate the authority of the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands (BCPL) to make state trust fund loans, and

WHEREAS, these bills would eliminate an easy, efficient, and cost effective tool for local government to expand infrastructure, purchase capital equipment, and engage in economic development projects, and

WHEREAS, local governments, including Washburn County and many smaller municipalities, consider the BCPL loan program of high value for not only it's use as an efficient and effective financing method, but also in the program's commitment to maintaining a constitutionally protected form of school library funding, and

WHEREAS, supporters of AB 713 and SB 857 argue that the money currently loaned to local governments and invested by BCPL could obtain a higher rate of return if invested by the same group who manages the Wisconsin Retirement System, and

WHEREAS, the non-partisan Legislative Fiscal Bureau, however, has found that this would not be the case and the investment return would be similar, and

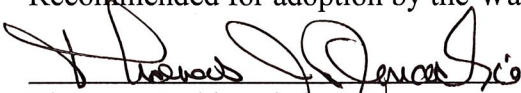
WHEREAS, demolition of this program would eliminate a smart fiscal tool which local governments rely on to be an effective steward of the taxpayer, and

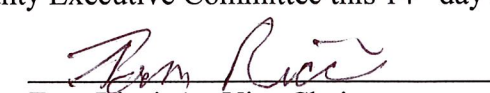
WHEREAS, as we continue to strive to support our local libraries and while we understand that it is not the intent of the bill authors to take money away from school libraries, we are very concerned about unintended consequences that could result from this legislation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Washburn County Board of Supervisors hereby opposes the passage of SB 713/AB 857 and directs the County Clerk to send this to the Wisconsin Counties Association; the Senate Committee on Government Operations, Technology and Consumer Protection and Committee Members; the Assembly Committee on State Affairs and Committee Members; Senator Janet Bewley and Representatives Nick Milroy and Romaine Quinn.

FISCAL IMPACT: None

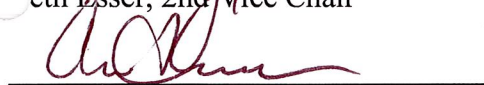
Recommended for adoption by the Washburn County Executive Committee this 14th day of February 2018.


Thomas Mackie, Chairman


Tom Ricci, 1st Vice Chair


Seth Esser, 2nd Vice Chair


Steve Waggoner, Member


Chris Thompson, Member

Motion: Masterjohn Second: Haessig
(Voice) (Roll) vote: Yes X No _____

I, Lolita Olson, as County Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted by the County of Washburn at the meeting held on: 2-20-18

