



Resolution No. 34 (2018)
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF INCREASED COUNTY CHILD
SUPPORT FUNDING

1 **WHEREAS**, St. Croix County administers the Child Support Enforcement Program on behalf of
2 the state, providing services to St. Croix County residents including paternity establishment, obtaining child
3 support and health insurance orders for children, and enforcing and modifying those orders; and
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5 **WHEREAS**, our children’s well-being, economic security and success in life are enhanced by
6 parents who provide financial and emotional support; and
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8 **WHEREAS**, the St. Croix County’s Child Support Agency ensures that parents take responsibility
9 for the care and well-being of their children, supports the involvement of parents in their children’s lives
10 and provides services to both custodial and noncustodial parents; and
11

12 **WHEREAS**, the Child Support Enforcement Program is an effective investment in Wisconsin’s
13 future as child support increases self-sufficiency, reduces child poverty, and has a positive effect on
14 children’s well-being; and
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16 **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin’s Child Support Enforcement Program is ranked 2nd in the nation for
17 collecting current support; and
18

19 **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin’s Child Support Enforcement Program is incredibly cost-effective,
20 collecting an average of \$5.56 in support for every dollar invested in the program; and
21

22 **WHEREAS**, county child support agencies collected \$934 Million in child support during 2017,
23 95% of which went directly to families while 5% reimbursed public assistance programs; and
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25 **WHEREAS**, county child support agencies help save taxpayer dollars by establishing health
26 insurance orders for 97% of cases, which reduces state Medicaid costs by moving children from public
27 assistance to private insurance; and
28

29 **WHEREAS**, state funding for county child support services has not increased above the 2007
30 funding level while county agency costs have steadily increased due to growing caseloads, inflation and
31 new federal regulations; and
32

33 **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin’s strong performance in child support is at risk without additional state
34 funding. Diminished performance would result in reduced federal funding to Wisconsin; and
35

36 **WHEREAS**, decreased federal funding would lead to less funding for St. Croix County’s child
37 support agency. This could lead to reductions in child support enforcement staff and services and reduced
38 child support collections; and
39

40 **WHEREAS**, new state investments in child support are amplified by a generous federal match.
41 Every \$1 of state GPR invested in the Child Support Program generates \$2 in federal matching funds.
42

43 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the St. Croix County Board of Supervisors
44 respectfully requests that state funding increase for county child support agencies by \$1.5 million GPR in
45 each fiscal year of the 2019-21 Wisconsin state budget, which will generate approximately \$3 million in
46 additional federal funding each year. This investment will ensure that counties can continue to effectively
47 provide economic support to our children.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the County Clerk to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, State Senators and State Representatives representing St. Croix County, the Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Administration, and the Wisconsin Counties Association for consideration.

Legal – Fiscal – Administrative Approvals:

Legal Note:

Fiscal Impact: Increase in State General Purpose Revenue, which will generate additional matching funds from the Federal government. The specific amount unknown.


Scott L. Cox, Corporation Counsel 9/28/2018


Ken Witt, Interim-Finance Director 9/28/2018


Patrick Thompson, County Administrator 9/28/2018

10/05/18 Public Protection & Judiciary Committee RECOMMENDED

RESULT: RECOMMENDED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Roger Larson, Supervisor
SECONDER: Bob Feidler, Vice-Chair
AYES: Andy Brinkman, Roger Larson, Lynda Miller, Bob Feidler
ABSENT: Scott Nordstrand

Vote Confirmation.



Andy Brinkman PPJ Chair, Chair 10/12/2018

St. Croix County Board of Supervisors Action:

Roll Call - Vote Requirement – Majority of Supervisors Present

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Andy Brinkman, Supervisor
SECONDER:	Tammy Moothedan, Supervisor
AYES:	Schachtner, Nordstrand, Miller, Coulter, Sjoberg, Long, Moothedan, Feidler, Larson, Hansen, Brinkman, Peterson, Anderson, Achterhof, Leibfried, Peavey
ABSENT:	Dan Fosterling, Dave Ostness, District 13

This Resolution was Adopted by the St. Croix County Board of Supervisors on November 6, 2018

Cindy Campbell, County Clerk

Wisconsin Child Support: Supporting Independence

Collections

\$934 million

in child support
collected by Wisconsin
Child Support Agencies
in 2017

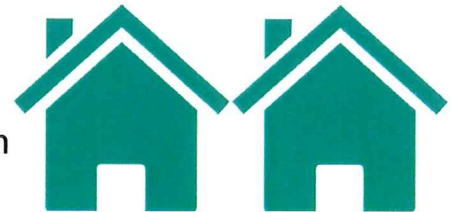


Wisconsin collects 74.6% of current support

Ranked **2nd** in the nation

95%

went to Wisconsin
families



Caseload

361,221 Wisconsin children served in
2017



Established paternity for
24,893 children in 2017

Wisconsin families eligible for child support

70% of poor Wisconsin
children live with a
single parent.

Child support represents
40% of family income
for poor custodial
families that receive it

Establishing Health Insurance Orders

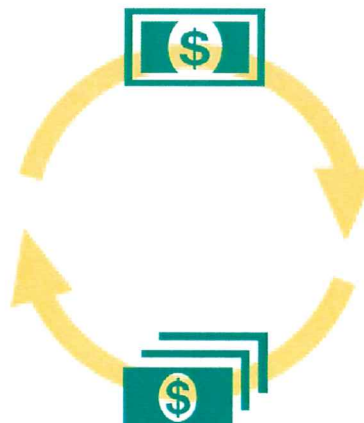
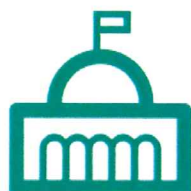
Court Orders for Health Insurance
established in **97% of cases**



38,666 BadgerCare Eligible Children
Enrolled in Private Insurance in 2016
for an estimated state savings of
\$28.5 million GPR

Cost Effectiveness

One of the most
cost-effective
government programs



For every **\$1.00** spent...

...Wisconsin's child support
program collected **\$5.56**
in 2017