Ladies and Gentlemen:

WHEREAS, within the Wisconsin Technical College System, there are 16 district colleges, with the Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College (WITC) District having campuses in Ashland, Superior, Rice Lake and New Richmond and outreach centers in Hayward and Ladysmith; and

WHEREAS, in establishing the Wisconsin Technical College System, the Legislature established the public policy in Wisconsin Statute Section 38.001 to provide for a technical college system to develop and deliver educational programs and services to all members of the public by functioning cooperatively with other educational institutions and governmental bodies; and

WHEREAS in accordance with state law, technical college districts have the duty and responsibility to actively coordinate with school boards the responsibility for providing vocational training; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to state law, technical college districts have the authority to enter into contracts to provide educational services with local governmental bodies and lease governmental facilities to deliver educational programs and services; and

WHEREAS, despite current legislation, counties situated to adjacent counties with technical colleges and outreach centers are underserved in technical and vocational educational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the WITC District has identified in its 2015-2018 Strategic Plan strategic objectives to develop a systematic approach that will raise students’ level of essential skills for success in both employment and life; to analyze and determine programming needs and opportunities by meeting community needs and serving district residents, and to plan and improve facilities and technology to support the learning environment; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with state law, counties develop and implement comprehensive plans that address objectives for the future development of counties and promote, retain and expand economic development and employment opportunities within the counties and identify goals and action plans to attain such objectives; and

WHEREAS, the Polk County 2009 Comprehensive Plan identifies the need to promote and expand post-secondary educational opportunities and facilities in the County to stabilize, retain and expand economic development within the County; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the community facilities element of comprehensive planning, Polk County has determined there is currently existing Library, School and Polk County Government facilities that would be suitable for WITC educational programs through cooperation with Polk County; and
WHEREAS, the WITC District and the Polk County Board of Supervisors has recognized that Polk County is underserved in technical and vocational educational programming; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest as a state-wide concern to expand the statutory duties and responsibilities of technical college districts to actively coordinate with counties that are underserved in technical and vocational educational programming.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Polk County Board of Supervisors requests the Wisconsin Legislature to amend the duties and powers of technical college districts, as enumerated respectively in Wisconsin Statute Sections 38.12(8) and 38.14(3) to require district boards to actively coordinate and contract with counties to provide for and expand technical and vocational training programs in the facilities of the counties in which a technical college campus is not located and which are determined to be underserved in the provision of technical and vocational educational opportunities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Polk County Board of Supervisors supports that such legislation be effective and implemented as a strategic initiative of technical college strategic plans for the period commencing January 2018.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Polk County Board of Supervisors requests the WITC District Board to actively coordinate with Polk County to develop and implement a pilot program as a model to bring higher education to rural communities around the state that have been determined to be under served.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Polk County Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk to distribute a copy of this resolution to Governor Scott Walker; Senators Sheila Harsdorf and Janet Bewley; Assembly Representatives Adam Jarchow and Romaine Quinn; the Wisconsin Technical College System Board, the WITC District Board and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Source/ Funding Amount:</th>
<th>Not Applicable</th>
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<tr>
<td>Date Reviewed as to Appropriations:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Committee Recommendation as To Appropriation:</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
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<td>Effective Date:</td>
<td>Upon Passage</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dated Submitted To County Board</td>
<td>April 18, 2017</td>
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Review By County Administrator:  
- [ ] Recommended  
- [x] Not Recommended  
- [ ] Reviewed Only

Submitted By: [Signature]

Review By Corporation Counsel:  
- [ ] Approved as to Form  
- [ ] Recommended  
- [ ] Not Recommended  
- [x] Reviewed Only

Jeffrey B. Rigg, Corporation Counsel
Acknowledgement of County Board Action

At its regular business meeting on the 18th day of April 2017, the Polk County Board of Supervisors considered and acted on the above resolution, Resolution No. 31-17: Resolution In Support of Legislation to Expand Technical College Educational Programs and Services to Underserved Counties, as follows:

☐ By simple majority by a vote of ________ in favor and ________ against.
☒ Enacted by unanimous vote.
☐ Defeated by a vote of ________ in favor and ________ against.
☐ Defeated by voice vote.
☐ Action Deferred by Procedural Action, as follows: ____________________

SIGNED BY:

[Signature]

Dean Johansen, County Board Chairperson

Attest: [Signature]

Sharon E. Jorgenson, County Clerk
CERTIFIED COPY OF POLK COUNTY RESOLUTION

STATE OF WISCONSIN
COUNTY OF POLK

I Sharon E. Jorgenson, Polk County Clerk due hereby certify that the attached hereto and incorporated herein is a full, true and correct copy of Resolution No. 31-17, Resolution in Support of Legislation to Expand Technical College Educational Programs and Services to Underserved Counties, adopted by the Polk County Board of supervisors at its regular business meeting held on April 18, 2017

Sharon E. Jorgenson, Polk County Clerk

Date 4-19-2017