



Resolution No. 34 (2017)

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING SECTIONS 52 AND 53 OF ASSEMBLY BILL 456 AND
SENATE BILL 374 RELATING TO VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEES**

1 **WHEREAS**, current federal and state funding for local transportation infrastructure is
2 inadequate; and
3 **WHEREAS**, the State has imposed levy limits on local governments, which impacts
4 local spending for transportation needs; and
5 **WHEREAS**, current State law allows local governments, including counties, to enact
6 ordinances imposing an annual municipal or county registration fee on all motor vehicles; and
7 **WHEREAS**, although State law has allowed local registration fees since 1967, few local
8 governments have imposed local registration fees until relatively recently when more local
9 governments adopted vehicle registration fees to offset shrinking state and federal transportation
10 dollars and to repair deteriorating roads; and
11 **WHEREAS**, the fees that are collected are required to be used for transportation-related
12 purposes only; and
13 **WHEREAS**, St. Croix County imposed a local registration fee in 2008 to supplement
14 state and federal transportation dollars for the maintenance of the county highway system; and
15 **WHEREAS**, Sections 52 and 53 of Assembly Bill 456 and Senate Bill 374 provide that a
16 county or municipal registration fee may be continued or imposed only if approved by a majority
17 of electors voting in a referendum at a regularly scheduled election; and
18 **WHEREAS**, Sections 52 and 53 of Assembly Bill 456 and Senate Bill 374, if passed,
19 would require St. Croix County to hold a referendum within 18 months to consider continuing
20 the local registration fee; and
21 **WHEREAS**, the registration fee may only continue if such a referendum is approved by
22 a majority of the electorate; and
23 **WHEREAS**, this is another attempt to eliminate or reduce local control.
24 **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the St. Croix County Board of
25 Supervisors strongly opposes Sections 52 and 53 of Assembly Bill 456 and Senate Bill 374, and
26 recommends that Sections 52 and 53 be removed from Assembly Bill 456 and Senate Bill 374
27 prior to consideration by the Wisconsin State Legislature.
28 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that St. Croix County Board of Supervisors directs the
29 County Clerk to send a copy of this resolution to the Wisconsin Counties Association, State
30 Legislators, and Governor Scott Walker and all Wisconsin County Clerks.

Legal – Fiscal – Administrative Approvals:

Legal Note:

Fiscal Impact: Elimination of this revenue source would reduce County funding by \$775,000 per year, based on 2017 budget estimates.


Scott L. Cox, Corporation Counsel 8/30/2017

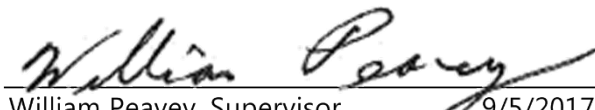

Robert Mittet, Finance Director 8/31/2017


Patrick Thompson, County Administrator 8/31/2017

09/05/17 Transportation Committee RECOMMENDED

RESULT: RECOMMENDED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: David Peterson, Supervisor
SECONDER: Dave Ostness, Vice Chair
AYES: Scott Nelson, Dave Ostness, David Peterson, William Peavey
ABSENT: Ryan S. Sicard

Vote Confirmation.


William Peavey, Supervisor 9/5/2017

St. Croix County Board of Supervisors Action:

Roll Call - Vote Requirement – Majority of Supervisors Present

RESULT:	ADOPTED AS AMENDED [15 TO 3]
MOVER:	David Peterson, Supervisor
SECONDER:	Dave Ostness, Vice Chair
AYES:	Ring, Babbitt, Sjoberg, Moothedan, Nelson, Berke, Ostness, Larson, Hansen, Ard, Peterson, Anderson, Achterhof, Leibfried, Peavey
NAYS:	Tom Coulter, Bob Long, Andy Brinkman
ABSENT:	Ryan S. Sicard

This Resolution was Adopted as Amended by the St. Croix County Board of Supervisors on September 5, 2017

Cindy Campbell, County Clerk