

Resolution in Support of Increased State Funding for County Child Support Agencies

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF DODGE COUNTY, WISCONSIN,

WHEREAS, Dodge County administers the Child Support Enforcement Program on behalf of the state, providing services to Dodge County residents including paternity establishment, obtaining child support and health insurance orders for children, and enforcing and modifying those orders; and,

WHEREAS, our children's well-being, economic security and success in life are enhanced by parents who provide financial and emotional support; and,

WHEREAS, Dodge County's Child Support Agency ensures that parents take responsibility for the care and well-being of their children, supports the involvement of parents in their children's lives and provides services to both custodial and noncustodial parents; and,

WHEREAS, the Child Support Enforcement Program is an effective investment in Wisconsin's future as child support increases self-sufficiency, reduces child poverty, and has a positive effect on children's well-being; and,

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's Child Support Enforcement Program is ranked 2nd in the nation for collecting current support; and,

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

WHEREAS, county child support agencies collected \$934 Million in child support during 2017, 95% of which went directly to families while 5% reimbursed public assistance programs; and,

WHEREAS, child support agencies help save taxpayer dollars by establishing health insurance orders for 97% of cases, which reduces state Medicaid costs by moving children from public assistance to private insurance; and,

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

WHEREAS, diminished performance may result in reduced federal funding to Wisconsin; and,

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's strong performance in child support is at risk without additional state funding; and,

1 **WHEREAS**, decreased state and federal funding may result in reductions in child support
2 enforcement staff and services and reduced child support collections; and,
3

4 **WHEREAS**, new state investments in child support will generate a generous federal
5 match, as every \$1 of state General Purpose Revenue (GPR) invested in the Child Support Program
6 generates \$2 in federal matching funds;
7

8 **SO, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Dodge County Board of
9 Supervisors respectfully requests that state funding for county child support agencies be increased
10 by \$1.5 million GPR in each fiscal year of the 2019-21 Wisconsin state budget, which will generate
11 approximately \$3 million in additional federal funding each year, ensuring that counties can
12 continue to effectively promote economic support to our children; and,
13

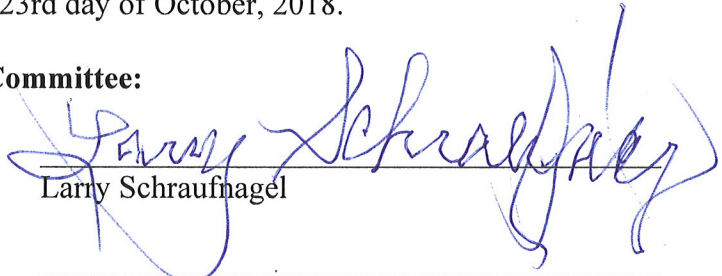
14 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the Dodge County Clerk shall transmit a copy of this
15 resolution to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, all Wisconsin State Legislators with a
16 constituency within Dodge County, the Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Administration,
17 and the Wisconsin Counties Association for consideration.
18

All of which is respectfully submitted this 23rd day of October, 2018.


Dodge County Judicial and Public Protection Committee:



MaryAnn Miller

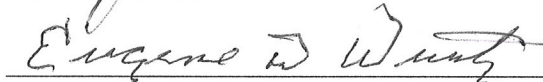


Larry Schraufhagel



Thomas Nickel

Dan Hilbert



Eugene Wurtz

Vote Required: Majority of Members present.

Resolution Summary: A resolution in support of increased state funding for county child support agencies.

ADOPTED
BY DODGE COUNTY BOARD

OCT 23 2018

AYES 29 NOES 0
ABSENT 4
ABSTAIN 0


County Clerk