Re: Requesting the Wisconsin Legislature to End Use of Personal Conviction Waivers for School and Day Care Center Immunizations

WHEREAS, vaccine-preventable diseases, such as measles, are very contagious and can result in serious health complications, including pneumonia and encephalitis, and lead to death, and

WHEREAS, outbreaks of measles have impacted multiple states in 2019, and a measles exposure occurred in Wisconsin in 2018, and

WHEREAS, the effectiveness and safety of vaccines have been well established, and

WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act has improved insurance coverage for vaccinations, which are readily available in medical offices and pharmacies, and public health departments continue to serve those eligible for the Vaccines for Children Program, and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's immunization law, Wis. Stat. § 252.04(3), and Wis. Admin. Code § DHS 144.06, permit parents to opt out or or waive some or all vaccinations required to attend school or group day care based on their personal beliefs, and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Public Health Association supports a change in school and day care center immunization law that eliminates personal conviction waivers for students in Wisconsin public and private schools and for children who attend group day cares;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Sheboygan County Board of Supervisors respectfully requests that the Wisconsin Legislature end the use of personal conviction waivers for school and day care center immunization.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk is directed to forward copies of this Resolution to the Governor, state and federal legislative representatives having constituencies in Sheboygan County, the Wisconsin Counties Association, Department of Children and Families Secretary Emilie Amundson, Department of Administration Secretary Joel Brennan, and such other public officials as the Clerk may deem appropriate.

Respectfully submitted this 20th day of August, 2019.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE*

Brian C. Hoffmann, Chairperson

Curt A. Brauer, Secretary

Roger R. Otten, Vice-Chairperson

James Baumgart

Dawn Brulla

Thomas V. Epping

*County Board members signing only

August 8, 2019, draft