March 14, 2018

Wisconsin Counties Association
22 East Mifflin Street, Suite 900
Madison, WI 53703

To Whom It May Concern:

Enclosed is the following Walworth County resolution:

Resolution No. 59-03/18 – Opposing 2017 Senate Bill 777 and
2017 Assembly Bill 923 Relating to Increasing the Authority of a
County Executive from a Populous County and Other Counties
and Reducing the Authority of a County Board

The Walworth County Board of Supervisors requested that this resolution be forwarded to your office at their March 13, 2018 County Board meeting.

Sincerely,

Kimberly S. Bushey
Walworth County Clerk

KSB/ps

Enclosure
Resolution No. 59 - 03/18
Opposing 2017 Senate Bill 777 and 2017 Assembly Bill 923 Relating to Increasing the Authority of a County Executive from a Populous County and Other Counties and Reducing the Authority of a County Board

Moved/Sponsored by: Executive Committee

WHEREAS, the Walworth County Board of Supervisors and the County Administrator have successfully worked together for many years achieving fiscal responsibility and providing innovative programs; and,

WHEREAS, proposed 2017 Senate Bill 777 ("SB 777") and 2017 Assembly Bill 923 ("AB 923") make a number of changes to laws relating to the authority of county executives and administrators and county boards; and,

WHEREAS, SB 777 and AB 923 generally provide that any power conferred to a county executive or administrator must be broadly and liberally construed and limited only by express language, and that, to the extent that a conflict exists between county board action and county executive or administrator action, the action of the executive or administrator shall prevail, to the extent of the conflict; and,

WHEREAS, SB 777 and AB 923 change the authority of county executives and county boards statewide relative to acceptance of donations, gifts, and grants, and transportation leases; and,

WHEREAS, SB 777 and AB 923 restrict county board actions related to the budget; and,

WHEREAS, SB 777 and AB 923 allow the county executive or administrator to determine whether to utilize biennial budgeting; and,

WHEREAS, SB 777 and AB 923, generally, fundamentally expand the powers that may be exercised by the county executive and administrator and limit the powers that may be exercised by a county board; and,

WHEREAS, the Walworth County Board of Supervisors is strongly opposed to any provisions that would significantly change the current powers of county boards, executives and administrators; and,

WHEREAS, the policy changes in SB 777 and AB 923 have not been properly vetted nor has the general public been properly informed of the shift in the balance of power among their local elected officials.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Walworth County Board of Supervisors hereby expresses its opposition to 2017 Senate Bill 777 and 2017 Assembly 923.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this resolution to Governor Scott Walker, State Legislators representing Walworth County and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

Nancy Russell  
County Board Chair

Kimberly S. Bushey  
County Clerk

County Board Meeting Date: March 13, 2018

Action Required: Majority Vote _X__ Two-thirds Vote _____ Other _____

Policy and Fiscal Note is attached. Reviewed and approved pursuant to Section 2-91 of the Walworth County Code of Ordinances:

David A. Bretl  
County Administrator/Corporation Counsel

Nicole Andersen  
Deputy County Administrator - Finance

If unsigned, exceptions shall be so noted by the County Administrator.

This Resolution/Ordinance was: adopted; Roll Call/U.C./Voice

Aycs:  Noes:  Absent:  
Date March 13, 2018
Policy and Fiscal Note
Resolution No. 59 - 03/18

I. Title: Opposing 2017 Senate Bill 777 and 2017 Assembly Bill 923 Relating to Increasing the Authority of a County Executive from a Populous County and Other Counties and Reducing the Authority of a County Board

II. Purpose and Policy Impact Statement: The purpose of this resolution is to oppose 2017 Senate Bill 777 and 2017 Assembly Bill 923 relating to increasing the authority of a county executive from a populous county and other counties and reducing the authority of a county board.

III. Budget and Fiscal Impact: Passage of this resolution will not fiscally impact the county budget.

IV. Referred to the following standing committees for consideration and date of referral:

Committee: Executive Committee
Meeting Date: February 19, 2018

Vote: 5-0

County Board Meeting Date: March 13, 2018

Policy and fiscal note has been reviewed and approved as an accurate statement of the probable policy and fiscal impacts associated with passage of the attached resolution.

David A. Brelt
County Administrator/Corporation Counsel
Date: 5/26/18

Nicole Andersen
Deputy County Administrator – Finance
Date: 3/15/18

If unsigned, exceptions shall be so noted by the County Administrator.