INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To encourage the Wisconsin Counties Association, the state legislature, and the Governor to support Medicaid Expansion in Wisconsin for the benefit of Wood County residents and residents throughout the state.

FISCAL NOTE: Unknown cost savings to the County by the State's acceptance of federal dollars to assist residents of the County and alleviating some of the myriad financial consequences to the County in having certain of its residents receiving this higher level of assistance.

WHEREAS, the federal government has agreed to provide states funding for Medicaid (MA) expansion to the residents of the states eligible for MA benefits, and

WHEREAS, in 2014 the voters in Wood County approved by a vote of 21,192 in favor and 8,882 opposed to a nonbinding referendum to have Wisconsin accept federal MA expansion funding to enhance the services covered by BadgerCare, and

WHEREAS, the State has yet to accept the MA expansion funding, thereby leaving its BadgerCare eligible residents with higher levels of medical issues, some of which impact each county directly and indirectly and result in local taxpayers having to pay for services that they wouldn't have to if the federal funds were accepted, and

WHEREAS, some see the acceptance of MA expansion dollars as a political issue but the Wood County Board views the matter from the vantage point of how best to serve the residents of this county.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE WOOD COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HEREBY REOLVES to go on record to:

1. State that it supports the State of Wisconsin's acceptance of MA expansion dollars to better fund BadgerCare.
2. To request all state legislators who represent any part of Wood County to support legislative efforts to accept MA expansion funds.
3. To encourage the Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) to adopt legislative initiatives that support acceptance of MA expansion dollars in Wisconsin.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to all state legislators who represent any part of Wood County, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be referred to the Wisconsin Counties Association so as to be considered at the WCA Annual Business Meeting.