

REQUESTING THE WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE REVISE CHAPTER 814 TO MAKE FILING FEES CONSISTENT BETWEEN THE CLERK OF COURT AND REGISTER IN PROBATE

WHEREAS, Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 814 relates to court costs, fees and surcharges. Wisconsin Statutes section 814.66 applies to the fees charged by the Register in Probate. The Probate Court and Juvenile Court are responsible for case types that are not listed in Section 814.66 or other statutes, with the result being that there are cases filed with Register in Probate for which there is no filing fee; and,

WHEREAS, under the statutes there are fees and costs that are collected by the Register in Probate that are different from the fees collected by the Clerk of Court for the same type of service. This often causes confusion to the public; and,

WHEREAS, the office of the Register in Probate and the Clerk of Court serve similar functions for the court, both offices are staffed with county employees, both offices utilize CCAP-provided computers and printers as well as county-provided copiers. There is no discernable difference in these two offices when it comes to copying and providing certificates; and,

WHEREAS, it would benefit the public and the county for the State Legislature to revise the statutes so that fees charged for similar services in the Clerk of Court and the Register in Probate are consistent in both offices; and,

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Register in Probate Association has commenced efforts to encourage the State Legislature to amend and revise the statutes to create consistency with the fees charged by the Clerk of Court and the Register in Probate.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; the Eau Claire County Board of Supervisors supports the efforts of the Wisconsin Register in Probate Association in their efforts to encourage the Wisconsin Legislature Statutes to amend the related statutes to further consistency between the fee structures for these offices.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Clerk is directed to send a copy of this resolution to Governor Tony Evers, the Wisconsin Counties Association, all members of the State Legislature and all Wisconsin Counties.

ADOPTED: December 3, 2019

Janet K. Loomis  
County Clerk