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DUNN COUNTY, WISCONSIN  
RESOLUTION NO. 81

**In Support of Increased County Child Support Spending**

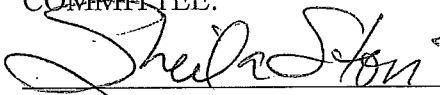
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that that the Dunn County Board of Supervisors respectfully requests that state funding for county child support agencies be increased by \$1.5 million GPR in each fiscal year of the 2019-21 Wisconsin state budget, which will generate approximately \$3 million in additional federal funding each year. This investment will ensure that counties can continue to effectively provide economic support to our children.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, State Senators and State Representatives representing Dunn County, the Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Administration, and the Wisconsin Counties Association for consideration.

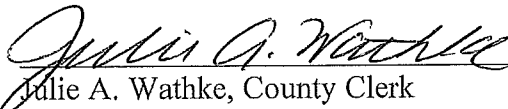
Offered this 17th day of October, 2018, at Menomonie, Wisconsin.

OFFERED BY THE JUDICIARY AND LAW  
COMMITTEE:

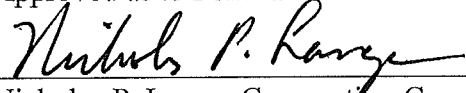
Adopted on: October 17, 2018

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sheila Stori, Chair

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Julie A. Wathke, County Clerk

Approved as to Form and Execution:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nicholas P. Lange, Corporation Counsel

**Budget Impact:** Adoption of this Resolution will have no impact on the 2018 budget or the proposed 2019 budget or levy.

**Background Information:** Our children's well-being, economic security and success in life are enhanced by parents who provide financial and emotional support. Dunn County administers the Child Support Enforcement Program on behalf of the state, providing services to Dunn County residents including paternity establishment, obtaining child support and health insurance orders for children, and enforcing and modifying those orders. The Dunn County 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.

County Child Support Agencies in Wisconsin collected \$934 Million in child support during 2017, 95% of which went directly to families while 5% reimbursed public assistance programs. They help save taxpayer dollars by establishing health insurance orders for 97% of cases, thereby reducing state Medicaid costs by moving children from public assistance to private insurance. Ranked 2nd in the nation for collecting current support, the Wisconsin 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. It is

incredibly cost-effective, collecting an average of \$5.56 in support for every dollar invested in the program.

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. Wisconsin's strong performance in child support is at risk without additional state funding. Diminished performance would result in decreased federal funding to Wisconsin, which would lead to decreased funding for Dunn County's child support agency. This could lead to reductions in child support enforcement staff and services and reduced child support collections.

New state investments in child support are amplified by a generous federal match. Every \$1 of state GPR invested in the Child Support Program generates \$2 in federal matching funds.