

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AN INCREASE IN STATE FUNDING
FOR COUNTY CHILD SUPPORT AGENCIES**

WHEREAS, Fond du Lac County administers the Child Support Enforcement Program on behalf of the state, providing services to Fond du Lac County residents, including paternity establishment, obtaining child support and health insurance orders for children, and enforcing and modifying those orders, and

WHEREAS, Fond du Lac County's 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, and

WHEREAS, our children's well-being, economic security, and success in life are enhanced by parents who provide financial and emotional support, and

WHEREAS, the 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, and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's Child Support Enforcement Program is ranked second in the nation for collecting current support, and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's Child Support Enforcement Program is incredibly cost-effective, collecting an average of \$5.56 in support for every dollar invested in the program, and

WHEREAS, county child support agencies collected \$934 million in child support during 2017, 95 percent of which went directly to families, while 5 percent reimbursed public assistance programs, and

WHEREAS, child support agencies help save taxpayer dollars by establishing health insurance orders for 97 percent of cases, which reduces state Medicaid costs by moving children from public assistance to private insurance, and

WHEREAS, 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, and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's strong performance in child support is at risk without additional state funding, and diminished performance would result in reduced federal funding to Wisconsin, and

WHEREAS, decreased federal funding would lead to less funding for Fond du Lac County's Child Support Agency, which could lead to reductions in child support enforcement staff and services and reduced child support collections, and

WHEREAS, new state investments in child support are amplified by a generous federal match, as every \$1 of state general purpose revenue (GPR) invested in the Child Support Enforcement Program generates \$2 in federal matching funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fond du Lac 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 and ensure that counties can continue to effectively provide economic support to our children.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the County Clerk to the Governor of Wisconsin, state senators and state representatives representing Fond du Lac County, the Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Administration, and the Wisconsin Counties Association for consideration.

Dated _____

**SUBMITTED BY:
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Lisette A. Aldrich

Jay J. Myrechuck

Joseph M. Fenrick

Judy Goldsmith

Mary B. Hayes

FISCAL NOTE: This resolution does not require an appropriation from the county general fund.

APPROVED BY:

**Allen J. Buechel
COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

APPROVED BY:

**Meggin R. McNamara
CORPORATION COUNSEL**