

STATE OF WISCONSIN)
) SS.
 COUNTY OF DUNN)

I, Julie A. Wathke, County Clerk in and for the County of Dunn, State of Wisconsin, do hereby certify that the attached copy of Resolution No. 2021-3 is a true and correct copy of the original resolution duly adopted by the Dunn County Board of Supervisors at a meeting held on January 20, 2021.

Given under my hand and seal in the City of Menomonie this 21st day of January, 2021.



Julie A. Wathke
 Julie A. Wathke
 Dunn County Clerk

DUNN COUNTY, WISCONSIN
RESOLUTION NO. 3

**Supporting Increased Funding For
County Child Support Programs**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dunn County Board of Supervisors requests that the Wisconsin Legislature increase funding for county child support agencies by \$4 million GPR in each fiscal year of the 2021-23 Wisconsin state budget, which will generate approximately \$7.7 million in additional federal funding each year. This investment will ensure that Wisconsin counties can continue to effectively provide economic support to our children.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the County Clerk 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 20th day of January, 2021, at Menomonie, Wisconsin.

OFFERED BY THE JUDICIARY AND LAW
COMMITTEE:

Adopted on: January 20, 2021

James Tripp
James Tripp, Chair

ATTEST:

Julie A. Wathke
Julie A. Wathke, County Clerk

Approved as to Form and Execution:

Nicholas P. Lange
Nicholas P. Lange, Corporation Counsel

Budget Impact: Approval of this resolution will have no impact on the 2021 budget.

Background Information: The well-being, economic security, and success in life for Wisconsin's children are enhanced by parents who provide financial and emotional support.

The county child support agencies that administer the Child Support Enforcement Program for the state provide services including paternity establishment, obtaining child support and health insurance orders for children and enforcing and modifying those orders. County child support agencies provide services to both custodial and noncustodial parents that reduce childhood poverty rates, establish parental rights, ensure that parents take financial responsibility for the care and well-being of children, and support and promote the involvement of both parents in their children's lives.

These services are provided in an incredibly cost-effective way, with an average of \$6.20 in support collected for every dollar invested in the program. County child support agencies collected \$935 Million in child support during 2019 and established 98,405 health insurance orders for Wisconsin children. The economic security and social service programs provided by Dunn County's Child Support Agency are needed by Wisconsin children and families now more than

ever due to the economic downturn caused by COVID-19. However, state funding for county child support services has failed to keep up with county agency costs, which have steadily increased due to growing caseloads, inflation and new federal regulations.

Wisconsin's Child Support Enforcement Program has fallen from 2nd in the nation for collecting current support to 5th. This decreased performance has led to the state losing out on an estimated \$70,000 in potential federal incentive payments between Calendar Year 2019 and 2020. In addition, an abrupt federal interpretation change in June 2019 eliminated \$4.2 million in federal birth cost recovery matching funds for Wisconsin.

Increases in state funding for the Child Support Enforcement Program are amplified by a generous federal match. Every \$1 of state GPR invested in the Child Support Program generates roughly \$2 in additional federal matching funds.

The effectiveness of Wisconsin's Child Support Enforcement Program is at risk without additional state funding. Further drops in state performance will lead to additional reductions in federal funding for Wisconsin's program, potentially leading to reductions in child support enforcement staff and services and reduced child support collections.

This resolution urges the Wisconsin Legislature to increase funding to the Child Support Enforcement Program to ensure that Wisconsin counties can continue to effectively provide economic support to our children.