



**Resolution No. 5 (2021)**  
**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF INCREASED COUNTY CHILD**  
**SUPPORT FUNDING**

**COVER MEMO**

**TO:** County Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Ken Witt, Interim County Administrator  
Lisa Plunkett, Child Support Administrator, Child Support

**DATE:** January 5, 2021

**AGENDA ITEM:** Resolution in Support of Increased County Child Support Funding

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Wisconsin Child Support Enforcement Association (WCSEA) would like to encourage legislators from every corner of the state to support the request for increased child support funding. There is strength in numbers so the WCSEA is requesting every county to support this resolution. Legislators listen to their local constituents, and St. Croix County could mean the difference between stagnant child support agency funding and counties obtaining the resources required to provide Wisconsin's families the child support services they need and deserve.



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**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF INCREASED COUNTY CHILD**  
**SUPPORT FUNDING**

1           **WHEREAS**, St. Croix County administers the Child Support Enforcement Program on  
2 behalf of the state, providing services to St. Croix County residents including paternity  
3 establishment, obtaining child support and health insurance orders for children, and enforcing  
4 and modifying those orders; and  
5

6           **WHEREAS**, our children’s well-being, economic security and success in life are  
7 enhanced by parents who provide financial and emotional support; and  
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9           **WHEREAS**, county child support agencies collected \$935 million in child support  
10 during 2019 and established 98,405 health insurance orders for Wisconsin children; and  
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12           **WHEREAS**, the St. Croix County Child Support Agency provides services to children as  
13 well as custodial and non-custodial parents that reduce childhood poverty rates, establish  
14 parental rights, and promote the involvement of both parents in the life of their children; and  
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16           **WHEREAS**, the economic security and social service programs provided by the St.  
17 Croix County Child Support Agency are needed by Wisconsin children and families now more  
18 than ever due to the economic downturn caused by COVID-19; and  
19

20           **WHEREAS**, State funding for county child support services has failed to keep up with  
21 county agency costs, which have steadily increased due to growing case loads, inflation, and new  
22 federal regulations; and  
23

24           **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin’s Child Support Enforcement Program has fallen from 2nd in  
25 the nation for collecting current child support to 5th; and  
26

27           **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin’s decreased performance has led to the state losing out on an  
28 estimated \$70,000 in potential funding incentive payments between calendar year 2019 and  
29 2020; and  
30

31           **WHEREAS**, an abrupt federal interpretation change in June 2019 eliminated \$4.2  
32 million in federal birth cost recovery matching funds for Wisconsin; and  
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34           **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin’s strong performance in child support is at risk without  
35 additional state funding. Further drops in performance would result in additional reductions to  
36 federal funding for Wisconsin; and  
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38           **WHEREAS**, decreased federal funding would lead to less funding for the St. Croix  
39 County Child Support Agency. This could lead to reductions in child support enforcement staff  
40 and services and reduced child support collections; and  
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42           **WHEREAS**, new state investments in child support are amplified by a generous federal  
43 match. Every \$1 of state GPR invested in the Child Support Enforcement Program generates  
44 roughly \$2 in federal matching funds; and





Bob Feidler PPJ Chair

12/9/2020

**St. Croix County Board of Supervisors Action:**

Roll Call - Vote Requirement – Majority of Supervisors Present

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Bob Feidler, Supervisor
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Paul Berning, Supervisor
<b>AYES:</b>	Schachtner, Anderson, Long, Leaf, Koch, Hall, Berning, Ottino, Feidler, Ostness, Counter, Hansen, Ard, Tellijohn, Peterson, Achterhof, Tomtschik, Peavey
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Paulette Anderson

This Resolution was Adopted by the St. Croix County Board of Supervisors on January 5, 2021

Cindy Campbell, County Clerk