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WASHINGTON COUNTY, WISCONSIN

Date of enactment: 3-10-2021
Date of publication: 3-17-2021

2020 RESOLUTION 58

Advisory Resolution Supporting the Transfer of the Fiscal Responsibility of Subsidized Guardianships to the State Similar to the Adoption Assistance Program

WHEREAS, subsidized guardianship offers a permanency option for a child in foster care allowing a relative, a person who is like-kin, or a foster parent to become the legal guardian for the child when termination of parental rights and reunification with the child's parents are not the best option; and

WHEREAS, child welfare agencies are required to offer subsidized guardianship to all providers who are eligible to receive it; and

WHEREAS, when the state legislature included subsidized guardianship as a permanency option as part of the 2011-2013 state biennial budget, it was to be cost-neutral to counties; and

WHEREAS, under subsidized guardianship, the guardian receives a monthly payment based on the Foster Care Rate Setting Policy with the payments continuing until the child reaches the age of 18, unless a full-time student, and the child continues to receive medical coverage through Medicaid; and

WHEREAS, prior to the use of subsidized guardianships, payments from the Children and Family Aids allocation ceased when the child was adopted, but under subsidized guardianship, counties must continue to use the allocation to fund the monthly payments to guardians which means that dollars that were previously redirected to support the work of child welfare agencies following adoption must now continue as subsidized guardianship payments making this permanency option anything but cost-neutral; and

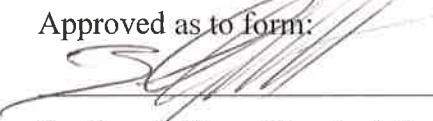
WHEREAS, each year, counties must designate a larger percentage of their Children and Families Aids allocation to fund the monthly payments to guardians through the subsidized guardianship program; and

WHEREAS, subsidized guardianship payments will remain a significant expense for counties in the future and should not be funded by the Children and Family Aids allocation to counties, but by the State in a way that is consistent with other permanency options such as the adoption assistance program;

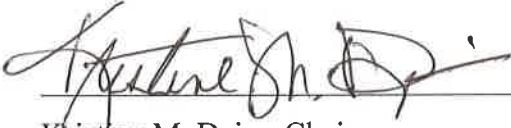
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Washington County Board of Supervisors that this Board hereby supports the transfer of the fiscal responsibility of subsidized guardianships to the State of Wisconsin .

VOTE REQUIREMENT FOR PASSAGE: Majority


1 RESOLUTION SUMMARY: Advisory resolution supporting the transfer of the fiscal
2 responsibility of subsidized guardianships to the State similar to the adoption assistance program.
3

4
5 Approved as to form:
6 
7 _____
8 Bradley S. Stern, County Attorney
9 Dated 3/11/2021

Introduced by members of the HUMAN SERVICES
COMMITTEE, as filed with the County Clerk.



Kristine M. Deiss, Chairperson

10 Approved:
11 
12 _____
13 Josh Schoemann, County Executive
14 Dated 16 Mar 21

Considered 3-10-2021

Adopted 3-10-2021

Ayes 26 Noes 0 Absent 0

Voice Vote _____

- 14 Veto
- 15 Partial Veto

16
17 (This advisory resolution has no direct fiscal impact to the County at this time. Should the state
18 make the requested change, the County would be able to reallocate current state funding to other
19 priority programs within HSD.)