**RESOLUTION NO. \_04-22\_\_\_**

**RESOLUTION TO ELIMINATE THE BADGER CARE ELIGIBILITY CLIFF**

**WHEREAS,** in addition to Medicaid, Wisconsin also administers Badger Care Plus, a similar program for groups of people who need healthcare coverage but may not qualify for Medicaid or need different kinds of services: Badger Care Plus is also sometimes informally referred to as just Badger Care; and

**WHEREAS**, those individuals who do not qualify for Badger Care or Badger Care Plus face a benefits cliff, which can occur when a public support program is designed in such a way that at a certain level of income, a small increase in earnings can result in a significant ineligibility for benefits; and

**WHEREAS**, this benefit cliff, in some instances, becomes a barrier for individuals seeking employment, or seeking better employment; and

**WHEREAS**, allowing individuals to work productively without harming their health benefits, not only reduces the cost of a benefit program, but also simultaneously improves the overall economic activity of a region.

**NOW, THREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Pepin County Board of Supervisors does hereby request the Wisconsin State Legislature and Governor Tony Evers work cooperatively to eliminate the aforementioned benefit cliff.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this benefit cliff be eliminated with a proportionate sliding fee scale, that as individuals and families earn additional dollars, there is a corresponding but smaller contribution amount toward their health insurance coverage.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution be forwarded to the Wisconsin Counties Association, State Senator Jeff Smith, State Representatives Ron Johnson, Tammy Baldwin, and U.S Representative Ron Kind, Governor Evers and other Wisconsin Counties.

**RECOMMENDED BY THE PEPIN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES BOARD:**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS VOTE**

\_\_/s/ Tessa King \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_7\_\_\_\_ \_\_0\_\_\_ \_\_\_0\_\_ \_\_\_0\_\_\_\_

Tessa King, Human Service Board Chair In favor Oppose Absent Abstain

**FISCAL IMPACT REVIEWED –** No direct measurable fiscal impact to the County. The fiscal impacts would be seen relative to improvement in the overall economic activity of a region.

\_/s/ Pamela Hansen\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_x\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Finance Director Recommend Not Recommend

**RECOMMENDED BY THE PEPIN COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE:**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS VOTE**

\_\_/s/ Tom Milliren \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_

Administrative Committee Chair In Favor- 5 Oppose-0 Absent-0 Abstain-0

**COUNTY BOARD ACTION:**

\_\_\_x\_\_\_ ADOPTED

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ DEFEATED

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ TABLED

by the Pepin County Board of Supervisors on this \_16th\_ day of February 2022

In Favor-11 Opposed-0 Absent -1 Abstain- 0

\_/s/ Audrey Bauer \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_/s/ Tom Milliren \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

County Clerk County Board Chair