

Resolution No. 31-07/21
**Supporting Legislation to Provide an Increase in Criminal and Ordinance Violation
Surcharge Retained by the Clerk of Courts**

1 Moved/Sponsored by: Executive Committee
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3 **WHEREAS**, County government implements a broad range of essential services, most of which
4 are required by state law; and,
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6 **WHEREAS**, underfunded and unfunded state mandates are continually placing an increasing
7 financial hardship on local property taxpayers; and,
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9 **WHEREAS**, as the portion of collected court fees retained by the county continues to be
10 insufficient to keep pace with inflation and ever-growing costs associated with the many
11 mandated programs within the county court system; and,
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13 **WHEREAS**, the County's portion of the statutory clerk fees have not increased since at least
14 1991, and while traffic/forfeiture case fees are set at \$20 and criminal court case fees are set at
15 \$163, the clerk only retains \$9.99 of the total amount.
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17 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Walworth County Board of Supervisors
18 hereby supports legislation that would increase court costs in the amount of \$20 to be retained by
19 the Clerk of Court for criminal and ordinance violations to align with a portion of the actual cost
20 for courts to operate. This will ensure services implemented on behalf of the state at the circuit
21 court level will more adequately be provided resources to perform their role in protecting public
22 safety.
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24 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Board hereby directs the Walworth County Clerk to
25 forward a copy of this Resolution to the Wisconsin Counties Association to be included in its
26 platform.
27
28
29

30 _____
31 Nancy Russell
32 County Board Chair
33

Kimberly S. Bushey
County Clerk

34 County Board Meeting Date: July 13, 2021
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36 Action Required: Majority Vote X Two-thirds Vote _____ Other _____
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Policy and Fiscal Note is attached.

Reviewed and approved pursuant to Section 2-91 of the Walworth County Code of Ordinances:

Michael P. Cotter Date
Corporation Counsel

Jessica Conley Date
Finance Director

Mark W. Lubberda Date
County Administrator

If unsigned, exceptions shall be so noted by the County Administrator.

