

December 21, 2022

TO THE HONORABLE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS  
OF THE BROWN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Ladies and Gentlemen:

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

**WHEREAS**, Brown County administers the Child Support Enforcement Program on behalf of the state, providing a holistic set of services to Brown County children and their parents, including paternity establishment, assistance with finding employment, obtaining child support and establishing health insurance orders for children, and enforcing and modifying those orders; and

**WHEREAS**, Child support is one of the most effective anti-poverty programs in the state, with county child support agencies serving approximately 347,000 children and collecting roughly \$906 million in financial support for Wisconsin families in 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, Child support is proven to reduce childhood poverty rates, lead to better educational and behavioral outcomes for children, and have a positive effect on food security, health and housing stability; and

**WHEREAS**, County child support agencies work closely with both parents to ensure that they have the help they need to be successful, including assistance with finding employment, referrals to other social service programs and right-sizing orders for individuals impacted by substances use disorders or other challenges; and

**WHEREAS**, State funding for county child support services has failed to keep up with county agency costs, which have steadily increased due to a high number of caseloads per worker, increased complexity of cases, inflation and new regulations; and

**WHEREAS**, An abrupt federal interpretation change in June 2019 eliminated \$4.2 million in federal birth cost recovery matching funds for Wisconsin; and

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**WHEREAS**, Wisconsin's strong performance in child support is at risk without additional funding. The state has already dropped from 2nd in the nation for the collection of current support in 2016 to 6th in the nation in 2021.

**WHEREAS**, Without additional state funds, county child support agencies may need to eliminate positions, further increase caseloads, or reduce services, further impacting federal performance measures, which would result in the loss of additional federal funds; and

**WHEREAS**, The individuals most impacted by insufficient funding for child support are the children and families served by county child support agencies, who will need to seek out public assistance programming absent the financial security provided by the child support program; and

**WHEREAS**, State investments in child support are amplified by a generous federal match. Every \$1 of state GPR invested in the Child Support Program generates roughly \$2 in federal matching funds; and

**WHEREAS**, Wisconsin's Child Support Enforcement Program is incredibly cost-effective, collecting an average of \$6.43 in support for every dollar invested in the program.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Brown County Board of Supervisors respectfully requests that state funding for county child support agencies be increased by \$5 million GPR in each fiscal year of the 2023-25 Wisconsin state budget, which will generate approximately \$9.7 million in additional federal funding each year. This investment will ensure that Wisconsin counties can continue to effectively provide economic support to our children; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution shall be emailed by the County Clerk to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, State Senators and State Representatives representing Brown County, the Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Administration, and the Wisconsin Counties Association for consideration.

*Fiscal Note: This resolution does not require an appropriation from the General Fund.*

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Respectfully submitted,  
 ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Approved By:

  
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 TROY STRECKENBACH  
 COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Date Signed: 12/22/22

22-126R  
 Authored by Corporation Counsel  
 Final Draft Approved by Corporation Counsel's Office

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ROLL CALL # 14C  
Voice Vote Taken

Motion made by Supervisor LeFebvre

Seconded by Supervisor Avery

SUPERVISORS	DIST. #	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	EXCUSED
ANTONNEAU	1	X			
DE WANE	2				X
NICHOLSON	3	X			
JACOBSON	4	X			
THENO	5	X			
LEFEBVRE	6	X			
FRIBERG	7	X			
BORCHARDT	8	X			
EVANS	9	X			
VANDER LEEST	10				X
BUCKLEY	11	X			
LANDWEHR	12	X			
DANTINNE, JR	13	X			

SUPERVISORS	DIST. #	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	EXCUSED
AVERY	14	X			
FULLER	15	X			
KASTER	16	X			
VAN DYCK	17	X			
HOPKINS	18	X			
ADAMS	19	X			
COENEN	20	X			
SCHULTZ	21	X			
PETERS	22	X			
SUENNEN	23	X			
SCHADEWALD	24	X			
LUND	25	X			
DENEYS	26	X			

Total Votes Cast 24  
 Motion: Adopted X Defeated \_\_\_\_\_ Tabled \_\_\_\_\_

CHILD SUPPORT



305 E. WALNUT STREET  
P.O. BOX 23600  
GREEN BAY, WI 54305-3600



Maria Lasecki

PHONE: (920) 448-4090 FAX: (920) 448-4101

CHILD SUPPORT DIRECTOR

**RESOLUTION/ORDINANCE SUBMISSION TO COUNTY BOARD**

**DATE:** November 29, 2022  
**REQUEST TO:** Administration Committee and County Board of Supervisors  
**MEETING DATE:** 12/8/2022 and 12/21/2022, respectively  
**REQUEST FROM:** Maria Lasecki  
Child Support Director

**REQUEST TYPE:**  New resolution  Revision to resolution  
 New ordinance  Revision to ordinance

**TITLE:** Resolution in Support of Increased County Child Support Funding

**ISSUE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Prior to a GPR funding increase of \$765,000 provided in the 2019-21 state budget, state funding for the program had been flat—or cut—for nearly a decade. Additionally, the Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement issued guidance in June 2019 stating that birth cost expenses are no longer eligible to receive federal matching funds. This abrupt interpretation change occurred with little warning and will result in a loss of \$4.2 million per year in federal funding for Wisconsin county child support agencies. Furthermore, Wisconsin has begun to drop in national rankings compared to other states, which could impact our federal incentive payments. The high number of cases per child support worker coupled with the increased complexity of cases and growing administrative requirements such as e-filing and mandatory paternity testing, make it difficult for workers to devote the time needed to appropriately address their cases.

**ACTION REQUESTED:**

The Child Support Agency wishes to request that the board support the resolution for a funding increase of \$5 million GPR in each fiscal year of the 2023-25 Wisconsin state budget, which will generate approximately \$9.7 million in additional federal funding each year.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

**NOTE:** *This fiscal impact portion is initially completed by requestor, but verified by the DOA and updated if necessary.*

1. What is the amount of the fiscal impact? \$ 0
2. Is it currently budgeted?  Yes  No  N/A (if \$0 fiscal impact)
  - a. If yes, in which account?
  - b. If no, how will the impact be funded?
  - c. If funding is from an external source, is it one-time  or continuous?
3. Please provide supporting documentation of fiscal impact determination.

**COPY OF RESOLUTION OR ORDINANCE IS ATTACHED**

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