

1 **RESOLUTION NO. 48-22**

2 **SYNOPSIS:** Request State to Revise the Current Real Estate Transfer Fees Revenue Sharing Formula
3 **INTRODUCED BY:** Executive Committee

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5 **To the Honorable Board of Supervisors of Columbia County:**

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7 WHEREAS, the collection by counties of a real estate transfer fee was mandated by the State of
8 Wisconsin ("State") in 1969, and included a requirement that counties remit 50% of all transfer fees
9 collected to the State; and,

10 WHEREAS, in 1981 the State arbitrarily changed the transfer fee formula to now require counties
11 to remit to the State 80% of all transfer fees collected; and,

12 WHEREAS, Columbia County ("County") through the Register of Deeds Office assumes the
13 annual operating costs of recording all real estate transfers occurring in the County, including the
14 collection of real estate transfer fees; and,

15 WHEREAS, in 2021 the County collected \$1,502,150 in real estate transfer fees with the
16 County's 20% retained share totaling \$300,430 and was required to remit 80% or \$1,201,720 to the
17 State; and,

18 WHEREAS, Columbia County real estate transfer fee collections averaged \$5,517,250 over the
19 past five years of which the County retained \$1,103,450; and over that same period \$4,413,800 was
20 remitted to the State; and,

21 WHEREAS, in 2021 the State has built up a budget surplus of approximately \$6.6 billion dollars,
22 while many Wisconsin counties continue to struggle financially due to the ever-increasing costs of
23 providing county government services in an inflationary economy, coupled with the financial restrictions
24 imposed by State mandated levy limits; and,

25 WHEREAS, in an effort to financially assist all Wisconsin counties, the County requests that the
26 State return the real estate transfer fee share formula to again allow Wisconsin counties to retain 50% of
27 all total real estate transfer fees collected, with 50% to be remitted to the State.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Columbia County Board of Supervisors
29 hereby requests that the State revise the real estate transfer fee share formula to again allow Wisconsin
30 counties to retain 50% of all real estate transfer fees collected, with 50% to be remitted to the State; and,

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk will send a copy of this Resolution to
32 Governor Tony Evers, all members of the State Legislature representing Columbia County, the
33 Wisconsin Counties Association and all other Wisconsin counties.

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35 Fiscal Note: NONE

36 Fiscal Impact: NONE

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43 STATE OF WISCONSIN
44 COUNTY OF COLUMBIA
45 CERTIFIED COPY

46 I certify that this is a true and exact copy
47 of the original of which I am legal custodian
48 for the County Clerk of Columbia County.

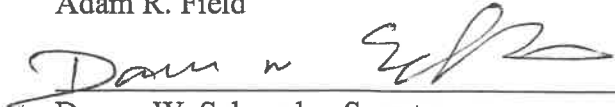
49 Signed by

50 
County Clerk or Deputy County Clerk

12-21-22
Date



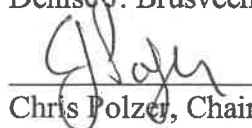
Adam R. Field



Darren W. Schroeder, Secretary



Denise J. Brusveen, Vice Chair



Chris Polzer, Chair

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE