



RESOLUTION NO. 29-02-2023

**Request that the State Revise the Current Real Estate Transfer Fees Revenue Sharing Formula**

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**TO THE HONORABLE KEWAUNEE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

1 **WHEREAS**, the collection by counties of a real estate transfer fee was mandated by the State of  
2 Wisconsin in 1969, and included a requirement that counties remit 50% of all transfer fees  
3 collected to the State; and  
4

5 **WHEREAS**, in 1981 the State changed the transfer fee formula to now require counties to remit  
6 to the State 80% of all transfer fees collected to the state; and  
7

8 **WHEREAS**, the County through the Register of Deeds office, assumes the annual operating  
9 costs of recording all real estate transfers occurring in each County, including the collection of  
10 real estate transfer fees; and  
11

12 **WHEREAS**, Kewaunee County real estate transfer fee collections as averaged over the past  
13 five years totaled \$1,231,900.20 of which the county retained \$246,380.04; and over that same  
14 period \$985,520.16 was remitted to the state; and  
15

16 **WHEREAS**, using a 50/50 split, the County's share of fees collected on local real estate  
17 transfers during that same five-year period would have provided an additional \$369,570.06 in  
18 support of local government; and  
19

20 **WHEREAS**, in 2021 the State of Wisconsin has built up a budget surplus of approximately 2.5  
21 billion dollars, while many Wisconsin counties continue to struggle financially due to the ever-  
22 increasing costs of providing county government services in an inflationary economy, coupled  
23 with the financial restrictions imposed by State mandated levy limits; and  
24

25 **WHEREAS**, in an effort to financially assist all Wisconsin Counties, Kewaunee County requests  
26 that the State of Wisconsin return the real estate transfer fee share formula to again allow  
27 Wisconsin Counties to retain 50% of all total real estate transfer fees collected, with 50% to be  
28 remitted to the State.  
29

30 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Kewaunee County Board of Supervisors duly  
31 assembled this 14<sup>th</sup> day of February 2023, that in an effort to assist all Wisconsin Counties, the  
32 State of Wisconsin revise the real estate transfer fee share formula to again allow Wisconsin  
33 Counties to retain 50% of all real estate transfer fees collected, with 50% to be remitted to the  
34 State.  
35


36 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to Governor Tony  
37 Evers, all members of the State Legislature representing Kewaunee County, the Wisconsin  
38 Counties Association and all other Wisconsin Counties.  
39  
40

**Request that the State Revise the Current Real Estate  
Transfer Fees Revenue Sharing Formula**

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**FINANCE AND PUBLIC PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

  
Thomas Romdenne, Chair

  
~~EXCUSED~~  
Steven Agamaite

  
Virginia Haske

  
John Mastalir

  
Jeffrey Vollenweider, Sr.

Approved at to form:  
David J. DePeau – Corporation Counsel

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:**  
Fiscal impact of changing revenue split of Real Estate Transfer Fees from 80/20 to 50/50 would be:  
County Real Estate Transfer Fees would increase approximately \$74,000 per year on average.

	Y E S	N O	A B S E N T	A B S T A I N
Agamaite, S.	✓			
Augustian, A.	✓			
Browne, S.			✓	
Doell, D.	✓			
Guillette, N.	✓			
Haske, V.	✓			
Jahnke, S.	✓			
Kinnard, T.	✓			
Kroll, K.	✓			
Langteau, D.	✓			
Lazansky, J.	✓			
Lukes, J.	✓			
Mastalir, J.	✓			
Olson, D.	✓			
Paape, G.	✓			
Patrycia, B.			✓	
Romdenne, T.	✓			
Swagel, M.	✓			
Teske, L.	✓			
Vollenweider, J.	✓			
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-</b>