

Request State to Revise the Current Real Estate Transfer Fee Revenue Sharing Formula

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

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

WHEREAS, the County, through the Register of Deeds Office, assumes the annual operating costs of recording all real estate transfers occurring in each County, including the collection of real estate transfer fees; and

WHEREAS, Jackson County real estate transfer fee collection over the past five years totaled \$1,462,494.60 of which the County retained \$292,499.52 and \$1,169,458.67 was remitted to the State; and

WHEREAS, using a 50/50 split, the County's share of fees collected on local real estate transfers during that same five-year period would have provided an additional \$438,747.78 in support of local government; and

WHEREAS, in 2021 the State of Wisconsin has built up a budget surplus of approximately \$2.5 billion dollars, while many Wisconsin counties continue to struggle financially due to ever-increasing costs of providing county government services in an inflationary economy and providing services for increasing unfunded State mandated programs along with the financial restrictions imposed by State imposed levy limits.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Jackson County Board of Supervisors that in an effort to assist all Wisconsin Counties, the State of Wisconsin revise the real estate transfer fee share formula to again allow Wisconsin Counties to retain 50% of all real estate transfer fees collected, with 50% to be remitted to the State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Governor Tony Evers, all members of the State Legislature representing Jackson County, the Wisconsin Counties Association and all other Wisconsin Counties.

Respectfully Submitted,
Executive and Finance Committee

[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]

I HEREBY CERTIFY

RESOLUTION # 19-05-2023

WAS ADOPTED ON 5/15/2023

BY JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

[Signature]
CINDY ALTMAN, JACKSON COUNTY CLERK

YES 18 NO 0

Absent: 1