

RESOLUTION NO _____

TO THE HONORABLE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE PORTAGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

RE: RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THE STATE REVISE THE CURRENT REAL ESTATE TRANSFER FEES REVENUE SHARING FORMULA

WHEREAS the collection of 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 Portage County real estate transfer fee collections over the past five years totaled \$5,805,094.00 of which the County retained \$1,161,018.80 and \$4,644,075.20 was remitted to the State; and

WHEREAS, using a 50/50 split, the County's share of the fees collected on local real estate transfers during the same five-year period would have provided an additional \$1,741,528.20 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 the ever-increasing cost 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 Portage County Board of Supervisors that 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 Governor Tony Evers, all members of the State Legislature representing Portage County, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and all other Wisconsin Counties.

DATED THIS 16th DAY OF MAY 2023

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
JUDICIAL/GENERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE
Date: April 24, 2023

AYE

Suzanne Oehlke – Chair

AYE

Pat Keller

Vacant

AYE

Matt Jacowski

Excused

Andrew Rockman - Vice Chair

		Resolution split		Current	
		State Share 50%	County Share 50%	State Share 80%	County Share 20%
2018	\$ 1,103,208.00	\$ 551,604.00	\$ 551,604.00	\$ 882,566.40	\$ 220,641.60
2019	\$ 977,799.00	\$ 488,899.50	\$ 488,899.50	\$ 782,239.20	\$ 195,559.80
2020	\$ 1,035,623.00	\$ 517,811.50	\$ 517,811.50	\$ 828,498.40	\$ 207,124.60
2021	\$ 1,441,087.00	\$ 720,543.50	\$ 720,543.50	\$ 1,152,869.60	\$ 288,217.40
2022	\$ 1,247,377.00	\$ 623,688.50	\$ 623,688.50	\$ 997,901.60	\$ 249,475.40
	\$ 5,805,094.00	\$ 2,902,547.00	\$ 2,902,547.00	\$ 4,644,075.20	\$ 1,161,018.80
				\$ 2,902,547.00	
				\$ 1,161,018.80	
				\$ 1,741,528.20	