

1 **RESOLUTION NO. 36-23**

2 **SYNOPSIS:** Request State Legislature to Create Household Battery Recycling Program

3 **INTRODUCED BY:** Solid Waste Committee

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

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7 WHEREAS, during May 2023 large, damaging fires occurred at multiple Wisconsin recycling  
8 facilities including two (2) major fires at the Columbia County Recycling and Solid Waste Facility; and,

9 WHEREAS, these fires were likely caused by lithium ion batteries that were not disposed of  
10 properly; and,

11 WHEREAS, Wisconsin currently has no legal, requirements, with the exception of lead acid and  
12 mercuric oxide batteries, for disposal of household generated batteries including: lithium, lithium ion,  
13 metal hydride, nickel-cadmium, silver oxide, and zinc-air; and,

14 WHEREAS, while the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources ("WDNR") publishes a  
15 Household Battery Recycling Guide, a copy of which is attached to this Resolution as Exhibit "A", a  
16 voluntary recycling program is no longer sufficient to protect Wisconsin residents from risks including  
17 an increasing number fires caused by lithium ion, and similar batteries that were not disposed of properly.

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Columbia County Board of Supervisors  
19 requests that the Wisconsin Legislature and WDNR enact new Wisconsin Statutes and Administrative  
20 Code Regulations to create a state-wide collection, recycling, and disposal program to add household  
21 generated batteries including: lithium, lithium ion, metal hydride, nickel-cadmium, silver oxide, and  
22 zinc-air, to requirements that currently exist in Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 287 for lead acid and mercury  
23 oxide batteries; and,

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk send a copy of this Resolution to Governor  
25 Tony Evers, all members of the State Legislature representing Columbia County, WDNR Secretary  
26 Adam Payne, and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

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28 Fiscal Note: NONE

29 Fiscal Impact: NONE

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32 Eric J. Shimpach

33 Harlan Baumgartner  
34 Harlan Baumgartner

35 Andrew Groves  
36 Andrew Groves, Vice Chair

37  
38 Henry A. St. Maurice  
39 Henry A. St. Maurice, Chair

40  
41  
42 STATE OF WISCONSIN  
43 COUNTY OF COLUMBIA  
CERTIFIED COPY

**SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE**

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

Signed by Chandra M. [Signature]  
County Clerk or Deputy County Clerk

10/19/2023  
Date