

**RESOLUTION NO. 124-24**

**RESOLUTION URGING GOVERNOR EVERS  
AND THE WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE TO  
SUPPORT THE COUNTY COURTS**

**WHEREAS**, in 2023, the total cost to Wisconsin counties for running all circuit courts was \$237 million. At the same time, the court support funding from the state to counties was \$28 million, 12 percent of the actual cost to run the local courts, and

**WHEREAS**, the circuit court system is intended to be a state-county partnership, and

**WHEREAS**, the state's fiscal responsibilities as noted in Wis. Stat. § 20.625, include judges, court reporters, CCAP equipment, and the Circuit Court Cost Appropriation, and

**WHEREAS**, the counties are fiscally responsible for the majority of other functions of the court, including, but not limited to the following: bailiffs and court security officers; courthouse building maintenance; phones and utilities, Clerk of Circuit Court and Register in Probate; staff salaries and benefits; jury costs; psychological exams; guardian ad litem and court-appointed attorneys; expert witnesses; interpreters and translation fees; court commissioners; law libraries; Corporation Counsel; courtroom technology and audio visuals; copy machines and other non-CCAP office technology; office supplies; furniture; recruitment and training; financial collection efforts; mail fees; printing costs, exhibit and file storage; access to state data; insurance; service of court documents; judicial staff attorneys; and equipment repair, and

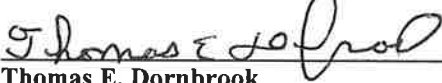
**WHEREAS**, over the last ten years, the increase in the county portion of costs to run the courts is nearly six times higher than the increase in Circuit Court Cost Appropriations provided to cover these costs, and counties now pay almost \$150,000,000 more than the state in unbalanced circuit court costs.

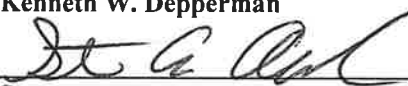
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Fond du Lac County Board of Supervisors that Fond du Lac County joins the Wisconsin Clerks of Circuit Court Association (WCCCA) and the Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) in their efforts to increase the Circuit Court Cost Appropriation by \$70 million payable to Wisconsin Counties in the 2025-2027 Wisconsin State Budget.

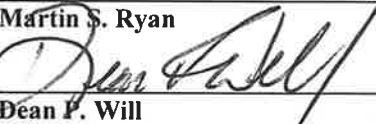
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Fond du Lac County Board of Supervisors requests that the Fond du Lac County Clerk forward a copy of this resolution to the offices of the State Legislators representing Fond du Lac County and the Office of the Governor.

Dated March 18, 2025

**SUBMITTED BY:  
FINANCE, PERSONNEL AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

  
Thomas E. Dornbrook

Kenneth W. Depperman  
  
Steven A. Abel

Martin S. Ryan  
  
Dean P. Will

**FISCAL NOTE:** This resolution does not require an appropriation from the county general fund.

**APPROVED BY:**

  
Sam Kaufman  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

**APPROVED AS TO LEGALITY  
AND FORM BY:**


  
Meggin R. McNamara  
CORPORATION COUNSEL

**CERTIFICATION:** I hereby certify this to be a true and exact copy of Resolution No. 124-24.

Ayes 23 Nays \_\_\_ Abstained \_\_\_ Excused 2 Absent \_\_\_

Approved and adopted this 18 day of March, 2025.

\_\_\_ Denied this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_.

  
Lisa Freiberg  
COUNTY CLERK