



WASHBURN COUNTY CLERK

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Alicia Swearingen, County Clerk
Rosie Hauk, Chief Deputy County Clerk
Mickee Latz, Deputy County Clerk

October 27, 2025

Wisconsin Counties Association
22 East Mifflin Street
Suite 900
Madison, WI 53703

Wisconsin Counties Association,

I am sending this letter today on behalf of the Washburn County Board of Supervisors.

Enclosed you will find Resolution 2025-61 In Support of Increased Funding for Income Maintenance Workers Due to Federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP")

Washburn County is asking for your support in getting this funding reinstated, it's crucial for our County and every other County in the State of Wisconsin.

Thank you for your time and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alicia Swearingen", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Alicia Swearingen
Washburn County Clerk

RESOLUTION # 2025 - 61

Resolution In Support of Increased Funding for Income Maintenance Workers Due to Federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP")

WHEREAS, the federal budget reconciliation package enacted in July of 2025, makes changes to the SNAP (FoodShare) program that would reduce federal costs and significantly impact county administered services; and

WHEREAS, these changes extend SNAP work requirements to individuals up to age 64, lower the child age threshold for parent exemptions, and eliminate waivers for areas with high unemployment, thereby increasing referrals to the FoodShare Employment and Training (FSET) program and workload for county human service departments; and

WHEREAS, the legislation requires states to contribute a minimum of 5% toward the cost of SNAP benefits if their error rate is 6% or higher, facing penalty funding of between 5% and 15% of total SNAP costs; and;

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's current SNAP payment error rate is 4.47%, but without additional investment in eligibility and administrative systems, heightened workloads could push the state above the 6% threshold, triggering significant penalties; and

WHEREAS, if Wisconsin's error rate reaches 6% on or after October 1, 2027, the state's 5% cost share would be approximately \$69 million annually, with potential penalty payments increasing the state's financial burden—costs that could ultimately cascade down to counties; and

WHEREAS, the SNAP administrative match rate for Income Maintenance (IM) activities has been reduced from the previous 50% federal / 50% state-local to 25% federal / 75% state-local, substantially reducing federal revenue available to counties to administer SNAP; and

WHEREAS, the reduction in administrative funds could lead to a reduction in IM staff, which could result in an increased payment error rate; and

WHEREAS, county IM administrative costs are approximately \$123 million annually, with SNAP-related workload accounting for about \$49 million of those costs; and

WHEREAS the new administrative match rate results in an estimated \$17 million annual loss in SNAP administrative funding to counties; and

WHEREAS, these federal cuts result from shifting the benefit and administrative costs to states and counties (reducing resources available for local administration), tightening work requirements (increasing county workload), and penalizing minor payment errors (resulting in more cost to the states); and

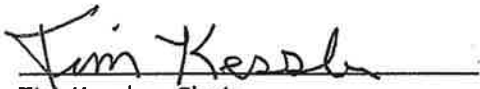
WHEREAS, counties operate under state-imposed property tax levy limits, restricting their ability to offset such funding losses without additional state or federal relief;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Washburn County Board of Supervisors urges the State of Wisconsin to provide funding to offset the county fiscal impact caused by the enacted federal SNAP changes, and to work with counties to ensure adequate resources for the administration of FoodShare and related programs; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washburn County Board of Supervisors urges the State of Wisconsin to provide funding by supporting the request from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services through the 2025 AB 387/SB 390 as part of the state budget correction bill; and

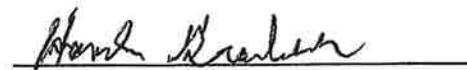
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Washburn County Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to send a copy of this Resolution to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, Wisconsin State Legislators with a constituency within Washburn County, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and the Wisconsin County Human Service Association.

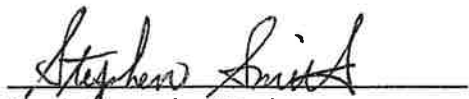
The foregoing resolution was recommended for approval by the Washburn County Executive Committee at its meeting on October 14, 2025 and approved by the Washburn County Board of Supervisors on this 21st day of October, 2025.


Tim Kessler, Chair

David Wilson, 1st Vice Chair


Lolita Olson, 2nd Vice Chair


Hank Graber, Member


Stephen Smith, Member

Motion: L. OLSON Second: L. FEATHERLY

(Voice) (Roll) vote: Yes 20 No 0 excused: DW

I, Alicia Swearingen, as County Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted by the County of Washburn at the meeting held on: 10.21.2025

