RESOLUTION NO. 14-2025

RESOLUTION

AGENDA NO I-2

Initiated By:

Health and Human Services Board

<u>Drafted By:</u>
Mark A. Peterson,
Corporation Counsel

Submitted By:

Health and Human Services Board

Date Drafted:

August 25, 2025

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF INCREASED STATE FUNDING TOWARD COUNTY COSTS TO PROVIDE "SNAP" FOODSHARE SERVICES

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 Crawford 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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Crawford County Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to send a copy of this Resolution to Governor Tony Evers, State Senator Howard Marklein, Representative Travis Tranel and the Wisconsin Counties Association (Contact Information on attached Exhibit "A").

Passed and approved this day of October, 2025.

County Board Chairman

ATTEST:

Roberta A. Fisher

County Clerk

Honorable Tony Evers Governor, State of Wisconsin P.O. Box 7863 - 115 East Capitol Madison, WI 53707

Senator Howard Marklein Wisconsin State Senate P.O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882

Representative Travis Tranel Wisconsin State Assembly P.O. Box 8953 Madison, WI 53708-8953

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

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