RESOLUTION NO. 638 - 26

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE STATE OF WISCONSIN TO FULLY FUND ALL STATE-MANDATED PROGRAMS AND POSITIONS

WHEREAS, county governments serve as the administrative arm of the State of Wisconsin, delivering vital state services including public safety, health and human services, the judicial system, and statutory duties of constitutional elected officials; and

WHEREAS, the State continually enacts statutory requirements mandating counties to provide new or expanded programs and specific employment positions without providing adequate state revenue to cover the actual operational costs; and

WHEREAS, the State simultaneously imposes strict statutory levy limits on county property taxes, preventing local governments from generating the necessary revenue to absorb the rising costs of these state-mandated services; and

WHEREAS, shifting the financial burden of these state mandates onto the local property tax levy places an unsustainable hardship on residents in rural counties, particularly senior citizens on fixed incomes and young, growing families already struggling to meet basic household needs due to rising inflation; and

WHEREAS, the combination of flat state shared revenue and rising mandate costs forces counties to deplete funding for essential, non-mandated local services such as road maintenance, infrastructure, libraries, and parks; and

WHEREAS, the Marinette County Board of Supervisors firmly believes that if the State of Wisconsin deems a program or position important enough to mandate statewide, the State should take full financial responsibility for funding it rather than shifting the burden to local property taxpayers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Marinette County Board of Supervisors respectfully requests the Governor of the State of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin State Legislature to fully fund all current and future state-mandated programs, services, and positions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the State should adopt legislation requiring any future mandates placed on local governments to include a reliable, permanent, and dedicated state funding source covering 100% of the associated local costs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Governor, Wisconsin state legislators, Wisconsin counties, and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

Approved by a majority vote of the quorum of the Marinette County Board of Supervisors on September 29, 2026.

John M. Guarisco, Chairperson

Bobbie Borkowski, County Clerk

Recommended: Administrative Committee on September 17, 2026