

**COUNTY OF RACINE
GOVERNMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Melissa Kaprelian, Chairman
Nick Demske, Vice Chairman
Fabi Maldonado, Secretary
Supervisor Marlo Harmon

Supervisor Tom Rutkowski
Supervisor Donald J. Trottier
Supervisor Taylor Wishau

*** THIS LOCATION IS HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE ***

**NOTICE OF MEETING
OF THE
GOVERNMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE**

DATE: TUESDAY, January 31, 2023

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: Ives Grove Office Complex
Auditorium
14200 Washington Avenue
Sturtevant, WI

The public may also join this meeting virtually via:

Browsing to this web address on a computer or smartphone:

<https://racinecounty.webex.com/racinecounty/onstage/g.php?MTID=ecff49d760a8312734fce0b35e59146c9>

Password: meetme

Or by calling: 1-408-418-9388

Access code: 2499 873 0277

AGENDA

1. Public Comments
2. Chairman Comments
3. Approval of Minutes from previous meeting(s)
4. New Business
 - A. Presentation regarding written application evaluation process for Youth in Governance program
 - B. Presentation by Sheriff's Office
5. Referrals from the County Board
 - a. Resolutions requesting the State of Wisconsin to review and revise the entry level compensation rate for Assistant District Attorneys from St. Croix, Winnebago, Trempealeau and Sheboygan Counties.
 - b. Resolution requesting the State of Wisconsin review its policy on Foreign Ownership of Farmland by Entities Party to Adversarial Governments from Winnebago County.
 - c. Resolutions requesting the State revise the current Real Estate Transfer Fees Revenue Sharing Formula from Columbia, Door, Lafayette, Langlade, Monroe, Waushara and Green Counties.
6. Adjournment



Resolution No. 48 (2022)
RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE STATE OF WISCONSIN TO REVIEW
AND REVISE THE ENTRY LEVEL COMPENSATION RATE FOR
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEYS

COVER MEMO

TO: County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Ken Witt, County Administrator
Heather Amos, Corporation Counsel, Office of Corporation Counsel

DATE: December 6, 2022

AGENDA ITEM: Resolution Requesting the State of Wisconsin to Review and Revise the Entry Level Compensation Rate for Assistant District Attorneys

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Historical information regarding St. Croix County Assistant District Attorney (ADA) and District Attorney (DA) positions:

- In 1989, ADAs and DAs were changed from being county employees to state employees.
- In 1989, St. Croix County had five state prosecutors
- The 1990 census indicated that St. Croix County has a population of 50,251.
- Currently, St. Croix County has a population of around 96,000.
- Currently, St. Croix County has seven state prosecutor positions. One of the positions has been vacant for over four months.

Pay differences between Wisconsin versus Minnesota prosecutors:

- In Minnesota, assistant county prosecutors generally earned \$100,000 a year and in metropolitan counties they were paid \$115,000, according to the 2011 LaFollette School of Public Affairs study.

- In 2011, the median income for Wisconsin ADAs was \$56,150. Meanwhile, 56% of ADAs had at least \$50,000 in law school student loan debt.

Starting wage for ADAs in Wisconsin today:

- The starting salary of an ADA is \$54,000, with a median salary of \$64,000, which is about half of the median salary of Minnesota. Now newly hired ADAs typically have over \$100,000 in law school student loan debt.

Wisconsin market based pay study:

The Wisconsin Division of Personnel Management (DPM) recently conducted a market study to determine appropriate salary levels for ADAs. The data gathered in the study conducted by the DPM supports a starting wage of \$35.00/hr. beginning with the first pay period of Fiscal Year 2024. The entry level wage at that time is currently scheduled to be \$27.24/hr. Every District Attorney in the State signed a letter requesting the legislature to increase ADA salaries to reflect the market based pay analysis proposed salaries.

St. Croix County DA's office recent and current struggles with ADA turnover and hiring:

The last seven ADA hires (in the last three years) were not approved by the State to hire above the minimum salary except current state attorneys could transfer at their current pay. Every ADA who left the DA's Office exclusively cited excessive workload and low pay as the reasons for leaving their positions.

The St. Croix County District Attorney's Office currently has six attorneys. Of the six attorneys, only three, including the District Attorney, have over five years of prosecution experience. The St. Croix County District Attorney's Office has had two open positions for months. One position has been open for over four months and the other open for over six months. The St. Croix County District Attorney's Office currently has six attorneys to prosecute criminal cases in four courtrooms and the commissioner's hearing room. If there are two attorneys out ill or on vacation, there are not enough attorneys to cover every courtroom and the commissioner's hearing room.

Three years ago, a Wisconsin Department of Administration report indicated that St. Croix County should have 10.6 full-time state prosecutors.



Resolution No. 48 (2022)
RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE STATE OF WISCONSIN TO REVIEW
AND REVISE THE ENTRY LEVEL COMPENSATION RATE FOR
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEYS

1 **WHEREAS**, Assistant District Attorneys serve as the backbone of the State of
2 Wisconsin’s ability to prosecute cases in all of its seventy-two counties; and
3

4 **WHEREAS**, any shortage of these Assistant District Attorneys creates backups in the
5 justice system, which can lengthen cases, create more pressure on existing staff, and delay or
6 deny justice to individuals that are party to these cases; and
7

8 **WHEREAS**, the entry level compensation rate for Assistant District Attorneys in
9 Wisconsin in 2022 is \$26.70 an hour, which is annualized to around \$54,000 a year; and
10

11 **WHEREAS**, this entry level compensation rate for Assistant District Attorneys has not
12 kept up with the rate of inflation and sits well below the national average for similar positions in
13 District Attorney offices across the country; and
14

15 **WHEREAS**, this entry level compensation rate for Assistant District Attorneys sits
16 below other public sector attorney positions in both St. Croix County and around the State of
17 Wisconsin; and
18

19 **WHEREAS**, this entry level compensation rate for Assistant District Attorneys is not
20 competitive in today’s workforce environment, accelerates staffing turnover in District Attorney
21 offices around the State of Wisconsin, and endangers public safety; and
22

23 **WHEREAS**, in an effort to make District Attorney offices more competitive in their
24 entry level compensation offerings for Assistant District Attorneys, St. Croix County requests
25 that the State of Wisconsin review and revise the entry level compensation rate for Assistant
26 District Attorneys to remain competitive with similar positions in District Attorney offices
27 around the country, other public sector attorney positions, and the private sector as well as to
28 keep up with the rate of inflation.
29

30 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the St. Croix County Board of
31 Supervisors that the State of Wisconsin is hereby requested to review and revise the entry level
32 compensation rate for Assistant District Attorneys in order to remain competitive with similar
33 positions in District Attorney offices around the country, other public sector attorney positions,
34 and the private sector as well as to keep up with the rate of inflation.
35

36 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution is sent to Governor Tony
37 Evers, all members of the Wisconsin State Legislature representing St. Croix County, the
38 Wisconsin Counties Association, and all other Wisconsin Counties.

Legal – Fiscal – Administrative Approvals:

Legal Note:

Fiscal Impact: No financial impact to the County.


Heather M. Amos, Corporation Counsel 11/11/2022


Leah Simington, Finance Director 11/14/2022


Ken Witt, County Administrator 11/14/2022

12/01/22 Public Protection & Judiciary Committee APPROVED

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Paul Adams, Supervisor
SECONDER: Cathy Leaf, Supervisor
AYES: Leaf, Adams, Feidler, Carlson, Ramberg

Vote Confirmation.


Bob Feidler PPJ Chair 12/1/2022

St. Croix County Board of Supervisors Action:

Roll Call - Vote Requirement – Majority of Supervisors Present

| | |
|------------------|---|
| RESULT: | ADOPTED [17 TO 0] |
| MOVER: | Bob Feidler, Vice-Chair |
| SECONDER: | Dave Ostness, Supervisor |
| AYES: | Lind, Long, Leaf, Adams, Berning, Ottino, Feidler, Ostness, Counter, Hansen, Sherley, Tellijohn, Carlson, Barcalow, Swanepoel, VanSomeren, Ramberg |
| ABSTAIN: | Shawn Anderson |
| EXCUSED: | Carah Koch |

This Resolution was Adopted by the St. Croix County Board of Supervisors on December 6, 2022

Christine Hines, County Clerk

1 136-112022

2
3 **RESOLUTION:** Requesting the State of Wisconsin Review and Revise the Entry Level Compensation Rate
4 for Assistant District Attorneys
5
6

7 **TO THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

8 **WHEREAS,** Assistant District Attorneys serve as the backbone of the State of Wisconsin's ability to prosecute
9 criminal cases in all of its seventy-two counties; and

10 **WHEREAS,** any shortage of these Assistant District Attorneys creates backups in the justice system, which can
11 lengthen cases, create more pressure on existing staff and delay or deny justice to individuals party to these cases; and

12 **WHEREAS,** the entry level compensation rate for Assistant District Attorneys in Wisconsin in 2022 sits at
13 \$26.70 per hour which is annualized to around \$54,000 a year; and

14 **WHEREAS,** this entry level compensation rate for Assistant District Attorneys has not kept up with the rate of
15 inflation and sits well below the national average for similar positions in District Attorney offices across the country; and

16 **WHEREAS,** this entry level compensation rate for Assistant District Attorneys sits below other public sector
17 attorney positions in both Winnebago County and the State of Wisconsin; and

18 **WHEREAS,** this entry level compensation rate for Assistant District Attorneys is not competitive in today's
19 workforce environment, accelerates staff turnover in District Attorney offices around Wisconsin and endangers public
20 safety; and

21 **WHEREAS,** in an effort to make Wisconsin District Attorney offices more competitive in their entry level
22 compensation offerings for Assistant District Attorneys, Winnebago County requests that the State of Wisconsin review
23 and revise the entry level compensation rate for Assistant District Attorneys to remain competitive with similar positions in
24 District Attorney offices around the country, other public sector attorney positions and the private sector as well as to
25 keep up the rate of inflation.

26 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that the State of
27 Wisconsin is hereby requested to review and revise the entry level compensation rate for Assistant District Attorneys
28 in order to remain competitive with similar positions in District Attorney offices around the country, other public sector
29 attorney positions and the private sector as well as to keep up with the rate of inflation.

30
31 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that a copy of this resolution
32 is sent to Governor Tony Evers, all members of the Wisconsin State Legislature representing Winnebago County, the
33 Wisconsin Counties Association and all other Wisconsin Counties and be referred to Winnebago County Legislative
34 Committee.

35 *Fiscal Note: No fiscal impact.*

36 Respectfully submitted by:

37 **JACOB FLOAM, DISTRICT 16**

38
39 Respectfully submitted by:

40 **JUDICIARY AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

41 Committee Vote: 5-0

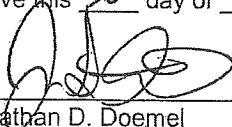
Respectfully submitted by:

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Committee Vote: 11-0

Vote Required for Passage: Three- Fourths of those members Present

Approved by the Winnebago County Executive this 30th day of November, 2022.


Jonathan D. Doemel
Winnebago County Executive

VOTE RESULTS

MOTION

SECOND

Resolution No. 136-112022

Compensation Rate for Assistant DAS

0 Requests to Speak

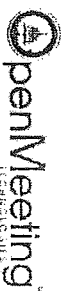
Time Remaining
Passed By Voice Vote
2:00

| | | | | | |
|----------------|---------|----------------|---------|---------------|---------|
| R. Dowling | PRESENT | S. Binder | PRESENT | K. Powers | PRESENT |
| R. Nichols | PRESENT | T. Swan | PRESENT | C. Hanson | Second |
| T. Borchart | PRESENT | M. Robinson | PRESENT | M. Cox | PRESENT |
| P. Eisen | PRESENT | J. Floam | Motion | N. Gustafson | PRESENT |
| K. Horan | PRESENT | J. Gordon | PRESENT | R. Youngquist | ABSENT |
| B. Defferding | PRESENT | J. Ponzer | PRESENT | C. Farrey | PRESENT |
| B. Ellenberger | PRESENT | J. Belville | PRESENT | R. Harrison | PRESENT |
| J. Wise | PRESENT | M. Norton | PRESENT | S. Zastera | PRESENT |
| D. Nussbaum | PRESENT | J. Hinz | PRESENT | T. Egan | PRESENT |
| B. Stafford | PRESENT | D. Zellmer | PRESENT | J. Beem | PRESENT |
| D. Albrecht | PRESENT | K. Schellenger | PRESENT | D. Nelson | PRESENT |
| M. Gabert | PRESENT | A. Buck | PRESENT | H. Miller | PRESENT |

Winnebago County Board of Supervisors - November 15 2022 07:07:28 PM



Winnebago County November 15, 2022



1 SHEBOYGAN COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. 22 (2022/2023)
2

3 Re: **Requesting the State of Wisconsin Review and Revise the**
4 **Compensation Rates for Entry Level and Experienced Assistant**
5 **District Attorneys**
6

7 **WHEREAS**, Assistant District Attorneys serve as the backbone of the State of
8 Wisconsin's ability to prosecute cases in all of its seventy-two counties; and
9

10 **WHEREAS**, any shortage of these Assistant District Attorneys creates backups in
11 the justice system, which can lengthen cases, create more pressure on existing staff and
12 delay or deny justice to individuals party to these cases; and
13

14 **WHEREAS**, the entry level compensation rate for Assistant District Attorneys in
15 Wisconsin in 2022 is \$26.70 per hour or approximately \$55,000 per year; and
16

17 **WHEREAS**, the compensation rates for Assistant District Attorneys has not kept
18 up with the rate of inflation and sit well below the national average for similar positions in
19 District Attorney offices across the country; and
20

21 **WHEREAS**, the compensation rates for Assistant District Attorneys sit below other
22 public sector attorney positions in both Sheboygan County and around the State of
23 Wisconsin; and
24

25 **WHEREAS**, the compensation rates for Assistant District Attorneys are not
26 competitive in today's workforce environment, accelerate staffing turnover in District
27 Attorney offices around the State of Wisconsin and endanger public safety; and
28

29 **WHEREAS**, in an effort to make District Attorney offices more competitive in their
30 compensation offerings for Assistant District Attorneys, Sheboygan County requests that
31 the State of Wisconsin review and revise the compensation rates for Assistant District
32 Attorneys to remain competitive with similar positions in District Attorney offices around
33 the country, other public sector attorney positions, and the private sector, as well as to
34 keep up with the rate of inflation.
35

36 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Sheboygan County Board of
37 Supervisors hereby requests that the State of Wisconsin review and revise the
38 compensation rates for Assistant District Attorneys in order to remain competitive with
39 similar positions in district attorney offices around the country, other public sector attorney
40 positions, and the private sector, as well as to keep up with the rate of inflation.
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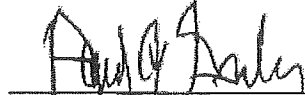
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Sheboygan County Board of Supervisors directs the county clerk to forward a copy of this resolution to the legislative representatives having constituencies in Sheboygan County, the Office of the Governor, the State Department officials dealing with the subject matter of this Resolution, every county in the State of Wisconsin, and such other public officials as the Clerk may deem appropriate.

Respectfully submitted this 20th day of December, 2022.

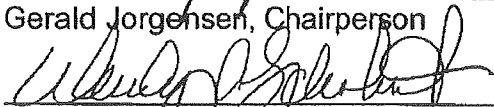
LAW COMMITTEE



Gerald Jorgensen, Chairperson



Paul A. Gruber, Vice-Chairperson



Wendy Schobert, Secretary

Jacob Immel



Carl Nonhof

Opposed to Introduction:

PASSED

1 135-112022

2 **RESOLUTION: Requesting the State of Wisconsin Review and Revise its Policy on Foreign**
3 **Ownership of Farmland by Entities Party to Adversarial Governments**

6 **TO THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

7 **WHEREAS**, according to the USDA, foreign agricultural interests in Wisconsin, as of December 31st, 2020,
8 own over 500,000 acres of land in the state with that number rising by over 25,000 acres from 2019 to 2020 alone;
9 and

10 **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin law currently allows for ownership of up to 640 acres of agricultural or forestry land
11 per foreign company or foreign individual; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 pandemic shows the need to localize supply chains, especially for food and
13 medicine, and to keep them out of the hands of adversarial governments or entities party to adversarial governments;
14 and

15 **WHEREAS**, with the reality that supply chain disruption could happen again in the future, it is prudent to limit the
16 exposure of these critical supply chains to entities party to governments who routinely abuse human rights, violate
17 international trade law and labor standards and seek to upend fair markets through state owned enterprises,
18 monopolization or means that otherwise threaten food security and the Wisconsin family farming tradition.

20 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors request that the
21 State of Wisconsin, in the next legislative biennium, review and revise its policy on foreign ownership of farmland.

23 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this Resolution is sent to Governor Tony Evers, all members of
24 the Wisconsin State Legislature representing Winnebago County, the Wisconsin Counties Association and all other
25 Wisconsin Counties.

26
27
28 Fiscal Note: *No fiscal impact.*

29 Respectfully submitted by:

30 **JACOB FLOAM, District 16**

31 **NATE GUSTAFSON, District 28**

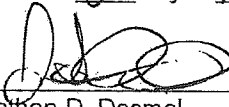
33 Respectfully submitted by:

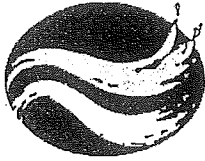
34 **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

35 Committee Vote: **10-1**

36 Vote Required for Passage: **Three-Quarters of those Members Present**

37
38 Approved by the Winnebago County Executive this 30th day of November, 2022.

39
40 
41 _____
42 Jonathan D. Doemel
Winnebago County Executive



Winnebago County
The Wave of the Future

Agenda Item Report

DATE: 9/6/2022

FROM: Supervisors Floam and Gustafson

RE: Resolution Concerning Foreign Ownership of Farmland by Entities Party to Adversarial Governments

General Description:

A resolution requesting that the state of Wisconsin, in it's next legislative biennium, review and revise it's policy on foreign ownership of farmland in order to secure our food supply chain and preclude bad international actors from owning farmland in Wisconsin.

Action Requested:

Motion to approve the attached resolution

Procedural Steps:

(Show each level of committee and board approval needed, with meeting dates.)

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| Committee of Jurisdiction: <u>Legislative</u> | Meeting date: <u>10/22</u> |
| Other Committee: _____ | Meeting date: _____ |
| Action taken: _____ | Vote: _____ |
| County Board: _____ | Meeting date: _____ |

Background:

Family farming in Wisconsin is a tradition that we lose more and more of each day. Combined with an influx of foreign purchases of farmland and the subsequent supply chain disruptions in light of COVID-19, it has become clear that our food supply chain must be secured domestically and kept out of the hands of bad actors.

Currently, Wis. Stat. 710.02 prohibits one foreign individual or corporation from buying more than 640 acres for agriculture or forestry. While this law was enacted in 1887 and has been revised numerous times to lift the exemption on manufacturing, mining, railroads, and more (thanks in large part to the US being a signatory party to the GATS treaty), the 640 acre limit has held firm for these two aforementioned sectors. This is the only safeguard that exists in Wisconsin law as it stands. In 2014, then Attorney General Van Hollen released the attached AG's opinion which affirmed that the 640 acre limit

for agriculture and forestry is not superseded by GATS as the treaty primarily covers the service industry.

Fiscal Impact: \$0

Policy Discussion:

Winnebago County has the opportunity to lead Wisconsin's counties in having the state revisit this discussion. Foreign farmland purchases in the US and Wisconsin are on the rise. While most buyers are transparent, publicly traded firms from nations that follow the international rules of the road when it comes to trade and labor, not all are. It's been the policy of totalitarian foreign governments like the Communist Party of China and Russian Federation to purchase foreign assets in critical infrastructure and supply chains. This resolution encourages Madison to implement sensible reform to foreign purchases of farmland to keep the good actors involved, and the bad actors out.

Attachments:

Included with this memo is a short policy brief with charts and maps regarding foreign farmland ownership from USDA's 2020 AFIDA report, the draft board resolution, and a copy of Attorney General Van Hollen's 2014 opinion.

VOTE RESULTS

Resolution No. 135-112022
Foreign Ownership of Farmland

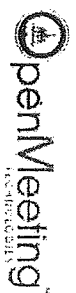
30 YES 5 NO 0 ABSTAIN 1 ABSENT

 Passed By 3/4 Vote

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|----------------|-----|----------------|-------|---------------|--------|
| R. Dowling | AVE | S. Binder | AVE | K. Powers | AVE |
| R. Nichols | AVE | T. Swan | AVE | C. Hanson | S AVE |
| T. Borchart | AVE | M. Robinson | AVE | M. COX | AVE |
| P. Eisen | NAV | J. Floam | M AVE | N. Gustafson | AVE |
| K. Horan | AVE | J. Gordon | NAV | R. Youngquist | ABSENT |
| B. Defferding | AVE | J. Ponzer | NAV | C. Farrey | AVE |
| B. Ellenberger | AVE | J. Belville | AVE | R. Harrison | AVE |
| J. Wise | AVE | M. Norton | NAV | S. Zastera | AVE |
| D. Nussbaum | AVE | J. Hinz | AVE | T. Egan | AVE |
| B. Stafford | AVE | D. Zellmer | AVE | J. Beem | AVE |
| D. Albrecht | AVE | K. Schellenger | NAV | D. Nelson | AVE |
| M. Gabert | AVE | A. Buck | AVE | H. Miller | AVE |

Winnebago County Board of Supervisors - November 15 2022 07:04:55 PM

Winnebago County November 15, 2022



RESOLUTION NO. 48-22

SYNOPSIS: Request State to Revise the Current Real Estate Transfer Fees Revenue Sharing Formula
INTRODUCED BY: Executive Committee

To the Honorable Board of Supervisors of Columbia County:

WHEREAS, the collection by counties of a real estate transfer fee was mandated by the State of Wisconsin ("State") in 1969, and included a requirement that counties remit 50% of all transfer fees collected to the State; and,

WHEREAS, in 1981 the State arbitrarily changed the transfer fee formula to now require counties to remit to the State 80% of all transfer fees collected; and,

WHEREAS, Columbia County ("County") through the Register of Deeds Office assumes the annual operating costs of recording all real estate transfers occurring in the County, including the collection of real estate transfer fees; and,

WHEREAS, in 2021 the County collected \$1,502,150 in real estate transfer fees with the County's 20% retained share totaling \$300,430 and was required to remit 80% or \$1,201,720 to the State; and,

WHEREAS, Columbia County real estate transfer fee collections averaged \$5,517,250 over the past five years of which the County retained \$1,103,450; and over that same period \$4,413,800 was remitted to the State; and,

WHEREAS, in 2021 the State has built up a budget surplus of approximately \$6.6 billion dollars, while many Wisconsin counties continue to struggle financially due to the ever-increasing costs of providing county government services in an inflationary economy, coupled with the financial restrictions imposed by State mandated levy limits; and,

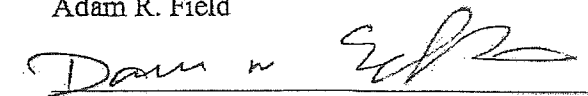
WHEREAS, in an effort to financially assist all Wisconsin counties, the County requests that the State return the real estate transfer fee share formula to again allow Wisconsin counties to retain 50% of all total real estate transfer fees collected, with 50% to be remitted to the State.

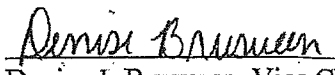
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Columbia County Board of Supervisors hereby requests that the State revise the real estate transfer fee share formula to again allow Wisconsin counties to retain 50% of all real estate transfer fees collected, with 50% to be remitted to the State; and,

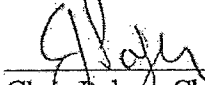
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk will send a copy of this Resolution to Governor Tony Evers, all members of the State Legislature representing Columbia County, the Wisconsin Counties Association and all other Wisconsin counties.

Fiscal Note: NONE
Fiscal Impact: NONE


Adam R. Field


Darren W. Schroeder, Secretary


Denise J. Brusveen, Vice Chair


Chris Polze, Chair

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

STATE OF WISCONSIN
COUNTY OF COLUMBIA
CERTIFIED COPY

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 
County Clerk or Deputy County Clerk

12-21-22
Date

Juneau County Board of Supervisors

Courthouse, 220 East State Street
Mauston, Wisconsin 53948



RESOLUTION No. 22 – 92

DATE: December 20, 2022

INTRODUCED BY: Executive Committee

SYNOPSIS: Requesting that the State Revise the Current Real Estate Transfer Fees Revenue Sharing Formula

WHEREAS, the collection by counties of a real estate transfer fee was mandated by the State of Wisconsin in 1969, and included a requirement that counties remit 50% of all transfer fees collected to the State; and

WHEREAS, in 1981 the State arbitrarily changed the transfer fee formula to now require counties to remit to the State 80% of all transfer fees collected; and

WHEREAS, the County through the Register of Deeds office assumes the annual operating costs of recording all real estate transfers occurring in Juneau County, including the collection of real estate transfer fees; and

WHEREAS, in 2021 Juneau County collected \$609,805.50 in real estate transfer fees with the County's 20% retained share totaling \$121,961.10, and was required to remit 80% or \$487,844.40 to the State; and

WHEREAS, Juneau County real estate transfer fee collections as averaged over the past five years totaled \$2,182,367.40, of which the County retained \$436,473.48; and over that same period \$1,745,893.92 was remitted to the State; and

WHEREAS, in 2021 the State of Wisconsin has built up a budget surplus of approximately \$2.5 billion dollars, while many Wisconsin counties continue to struggle financially due to the ever-increasing costs of providing county government services in an inflationary economy, coupled with the financial restrictions imposed by State mandated levy limits; and

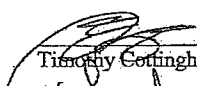
WHEREAS, in an effort to financially assist all Wisconsin Counties, Juneau County requests that the State of Wisconsin return the real estate transfer fee share formula to again allow Wisconsin Counties to retain 50% of all total real estate transfer fees collected, with 50% of all real estate transfer fees collected, with 50% to be remitted to the State.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Juneau County Board of Supervisors shall and hereby does request that the State of Wisconsin revise the real estate transfer fee share formula to again allow Wisconsin Counties to retain 50% of all real estate transfer fees collected, with 50% to be remitted to the State.


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to Governor Tony Evers, all members of the State Legislature representing Juneau County, the Wisconsin Counties Association and all other Wisconsin Counties.

INTRODUCED AND RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION ON DECEMBER 20, 2022

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



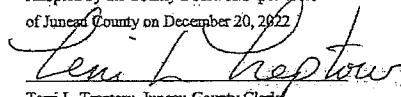
Timothy Cottingham, Chairperson



Howard Fischer

Herb Dannenberg

Adopted by the County Board of Supervisors
of Juneau County on December 20, 2022



Terri L. Treptow, Juneau County Clerk



DOOR COUNTY

Resolution No. 2022-107

RESOLUTION TO REQUEST STATE REVISE THE CURRENT REAL ESTATE TRANSFER FEES REVENUE SHARING FORMULA

TO THE DOOR COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

| ROLL CALL Board Members | Aye | Nay | Exc. |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|------|
| AUSTAD | | | |
| BEARDSLEY | | | |
| BULTMAN | | | |
| CHOMEAU | | | |
| D. ENGLEBERT | | | |
| R. ENGLEBERT | | | |
| ENIGL | | | |
| FISHER | | | |
| GAUGER | | | |
| GUNNLAUGSSON | | | |
| HEIM PETER | | | |
| KALMS | | | |
| LIENAU | | | |
| MILLER | | | |
| MORKIN | | | |
| NORTON | | | |
| ROBILLARD | | | |
| RUSNAK | | | |
| THAYSE | | | |
| VOGEL | | | |
| ZETTEL | | | |

1 **WHEREAS**, the collection of a real estate transfer fee by counties was
2 mandated by the State of Wisconsin in 1969, and included a requirement that
3 counties remit 50% of all transfer fees collected to the State; and
4

5 **WHEREAS**, in 1981 the State changed the transfer fee formula to require
6 counties to remit 80% of all transfer fees collected to the State; and
7

8 **WHEREAS**, the County, through the Register of Deeds Office, assumes the
9 annual operating costs of recording all real estate transfers occurring in each
10 county, including the collection of real estate transfer fees; and
11

12 **WHEREAS**, Door County real estate transfer fee collections over the past 4
13 years totaled \$5,047,629.00 of which the County retained \$1,009,525.00 and
14 \$4,038,104.00 was remitted to the State; and
15

16 **WHEREAS**, using a 50/50 split, the County's share of fees collected on local
17 real estate transfers during that same four-year period would have provided an
18 additional \$1,514,289.50 in support of local government; and
19

20 **WHEREAS**, in 2021 the State of Wisconsin has built up a budget surplus of
21 approximately \$2.5 billion dollars, while many Wisconsin counties continue to
22 struggle financially due to the ever-increasing costs of providing county
23 government services in an inflationary economy and providing services for
24 increasing unfunded State mandated programs along with the financial restrictions
25 imposed by State imposed levy limits.
26

27 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Door County Board of
28 Supervisors that in an effort to assist all Wisconsin counties, the State of Wisconsin
29 revise the real estate transfer fee share formula to again allow Wisconsin counties
30 to retain 50% of all real estate transfer fees collected, with 50% to be remitted to
31 the State.
32

33 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be sent to
34 governor Tony Evers, all members of the State Legislature representing Door
35 county, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and all other Wisconsin Counties

BOARD ACTION

Vote Required: Majority Vote of a Quorum

Motion to Approve Adopted

1st D. Englebert Defeated

2nd Norton

No: Yes: Exc:

Reviewed by: [Signature], Corp. Counsel

Reviewed by: [Signature], Administrator

FISCAL IMPACT: Based on the past 4 years real estate transfer fee collection using the 50/50 split calculation, Door County would have received an additional \$1,514,289 in revenues. STW

Certification:

I, Jill M. Lau, Clerk of Door County, hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution that was adopted on the 20th day of December, 2022 by the Door County Board of Supervisors.

[Signature]
Jill M. Lau
County Clerk, Door County

SUBMITTED BY:
Finance Committee

[Signature] David Englebert, Chairperson

[Signature] Bob Bultman

[Signature] Joel Gunnlaugsson

[Signature] Alexis Heim Peter

[Signature] Jeff Miller

[Signature] Morgan Rusnak

[Signature] Dale Vogel

RACINE COUNTY CLERK
FILED DEC 28 '22 AM 9:36

RESOLUTION 51 - 22
REQUESTING THE STATE TO REVISE THE CURRENT REAL ESTATE TRANSFER FEES
REVENUE SHARING FORMULA

WHEREAS, the collection of a real estate transfer fee by counties was mandated by the State of Wisconsin in 1969, and included a requirement that counties remit 50% of all transfer fees collected to the State; and

WHEREAS, in 1981, the State changed the transfer fee formula to require counties to remit 80% of all transfer fees collected to the State; and

WHEREAS, the County, through Register of Deeds Office, assumes the annual operating costs of recording all real estate transfers occurring in each county, including the collection of real estate transfer fees; and

WHEREAS, Lafayette County real estate transfer fee collections over the past five years totaled \$1,471,842.30, of which the County retained \$294,368.46 and \$1,177,473.84 was remitted to the state; and

WHEREAS, using a 50/50 split, the County's share of fees collected on local real estate transfers during that same five-year period would have provided an additional \$441,552.69 in support of local government; and

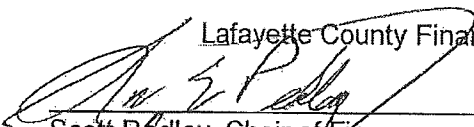
WHEREAS, in 2021, the State of Wisconsin has built up a budget surplus of approximately 2.5 billion dollars, while many Wisconsin counties continue to struggle financially due to the ever-increasing costs of providing county government services to an inflationary economy and providing services for increasing unfunded State mandated programs along with financial restrictions imposed by State imposed levy limits.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Lafayette County Board of Supervisors, that in an effort to assist all Wisconsin counties, the State of Wisconsin revise the real estate transfer fee share formula to again allow Wisconsin counties to retain 50% of all real estate transfer fees collected, with 50% to be remitted to the State; and

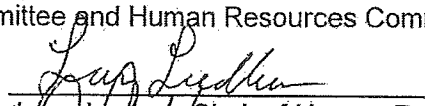
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Tony Evers, all members of the State Legislature representing Lafayette County, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and all other Wisconsin Counties.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lafayette County Finance Committee and Human Resources Committee



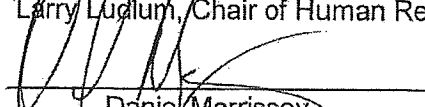
Scott Pedley, Chair of Finance



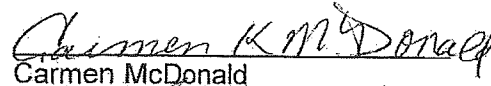
Larry Ludlum, Chair of Human Resources




Lee Gill



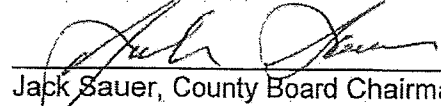
Daniel Morrissey



Carmen McDonald



John E. Reichling

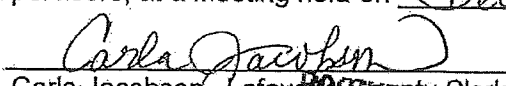


Jack Sauer, County Board Chairman

LEGAL NOTE: Within County Board authority.

FISCAL NOTE: No direct fiscal impact from the passage of this resolution.

I, Carla Jacobson, Clerk of the County of Lafayette, State of Wisconsin, do certify that this resolution was adopted by the Lafayette County Board of Supervisors, at a meeting held on December 20, 2022.



Carla Jacobson, Lafayette County Clerk

LAFAYETTE COUNTY CLERK
FILED DEC 28 '22 PM 12:14

Wisconsin Dept. of Revenue Fact Sheet: Transfer Fees and Division of Fees

- The Register of Deeds (ROD) offices collect and process all transfer returns and fees for the Wisconsin Dept. of Revenue (WDOR).
- Current statutes dictate the transfer fees we collect and how those fees are split:
Wis. Stats. 77.22(1) – transfer fee imposed at the rate of 30 cents for each \$100 of value.
Wis. Stats. 77.24 - the division of fees between the county (20%) and state (80%).
- There have been two division of fees since the WDOR started collecting them 1969:
 October 1969 - August 1981; \$1.00 per \$1,000 of real estate, split 50/50
 September 1981 - Present; \$3.00 per \$1,000 of real estate, split 80/20
- It's been 41 years since any changes have been made to the rate or division of fees.
- The ROD offices work directly with the public and our business partners on a daily basis, at our counters, on the phone and through email correspondence.
- The ROD offices educate the public and our business partners on how to access and navigate the WDOR site and the electronic transfer receipt that is required with any conveyance document.
- The ROD offices check each receipt for accuracy and collect any transfer fees that are due at the time the document is presented for recording.
- In 2021, the State of Wisconsin built up a \$2.5 billion budget surplus.
- Any additional increase to the division of fees above the 20% as required in ss. 77.24 would result in more money going back to the county.
- Any increase to the division of fees above the 20% would help support our constituents, county budgets, services and programs.
- Any increase to the division of fees would not incur any additional costs to the public or our business partners during the recording process.

This example shows the difference in fees collected and splits based on a sale of \$100,000.00:

| | <u>Transfer Fee collected</u> | <u>State Share</u> | <u>County Share</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Prior to Aug. 1981 | \$100.00 | \$50.00 (50%) | \$50.00 (50%) |
| After Sept. 1981 | \$300.00 | \$240.00 (80%) | \$60.00 (20%) |
| Difference | \$200.00 | \$190.00 | \$10.00 |

Here are the fees (your) County has collected over the last 5 years. These numbers show the difference between a 50/50 split and the current division of fees at 80/20.

| <u>(Your County)</u> | | <u>Proposed Resolution split</u> | | <u>Current statute split</u> | |
|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| <u>Year</u> | <u>Total Fees</u> | <u>State 50%</u> | <u>County 50%</u> | <u>State 80%</u> | <u>County 20%</u> |
| 2017 | \$215,785.80 | \$107,892.90 | \$107,892.90 | \$172,628.64 | \$43,157.16 |
| 2018 | \$236,053.50 | \$118,026.75 | \$118,026.75 | \$188,842.80 | \$47,210.70 |
| 2019 | \$226,737.60 | \$113,368.80 | \$113,368.80 | \$181,390.08 | \$45,347.52 |
| 2020 | \$307,976.40 | \$153,988.20 | \$153,988.20 | \$246,381.12 | \$61,595.28 |
| 2021 | \$485,289.00 | \$242,644.50 | \$242,644.50 | \$388,231.20 | \$97,057.80 |
| Totals | \$1,471,842.30 | \$735,921.15 | \$735,921.15 | \$1,177,473.84 | \$294,368.46 |
| | | | | Revenue Difference | \$(441,552.69) |

LANGLADE COUNTY



VOTE
16 AYES
4 ABSENT
1 VACANT

RESOLUTION #45-2022

INTRODUCED BY: ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

INTENT: REQUEST STATE TO REVISE THE CURRENT REAL ESTATE TRANSFER FEES REVENUE SHARING FORMULA

WHEREAS, the collection by counties of a real estate transfer fee was mandated by the State of Wisconsin in 1969, and included a requirement that counties remit 50% of all transfer fees collected to the State; and

WHEREAS, in 1981 the State arbitrarily changed the transfer fee formula to now require counties to remit to the State 80% of all transfer fees collected; and

WHEREAS, the County through the Register of Deeds office assumes the annual operating costs of recording all real estate transfers occurring in Langlade County, including the collection of real estate transfer fees; and

WHEREAS, in 2021 Langlade County collected \$418,476.00 in real estate transfer fees with the County's 20% retained share totaling \$83,695.20, and was required to remit 80% or \$334,780.80 to the State; and

WHEREAS, Langlade County real estate transfer fee collections as averaged over the past five years totaled \$1,402,899.20 of which the County retained \$280,579.84; and over that same period \$1,122,319.36 was remitted to the State; and

WHEREAS, in 2021 the State of Wisconsin has built up a budget surplus of approximately \$2.5 billion dollars with a projected 2023 budget surplus of \$6.6 billion dollars, while many Wisconsin counties continue to struggle financially due to the ever-increasing costs of providing county government services in an inflationary economy, coupled with the financial restrictions imposed by State mandated levy limits; and

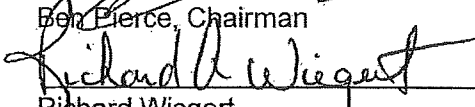
WHEREAS, in an effort to financially assist all Wisconsin Counties, Langlade County requests that the State of Wisconsin return the real estate transfer fee share formula to again allow Wisconsin Counties to retain 50% of all total real estate transfer fees collected, with 50% to be remitted to the State.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Langlade County Board of Supervisors hereby request that the State of Wisconsin revise the real estate transfer fee share formula to again allow Wisconsin Counties to retain 50% of all real estate transfer fees collected, with 50% to be remitted to the State.


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution is sent to Governor Tony Evers, all members of the State Legislature representing Langlade County, the Wisconsin Counties Association and all other Wisconsin Counties.


ADMINISTRATIVE AND LAND SALES COMMITTEE:


Ben Pierce, Chairman


Richard Wiegert


John Medo


George Shinnors


Robert Benishek

RACINE COUNTY CLERK
FILED DEC28'22 AM9:36

absent
Reinhardt Balcerzak
Todd Mayr
Todd Mayr

FISCAL NOTE: Based on 2021 information, splitting the fees 50/50 with the State would have resulted in Langlade County receiving approximately \$125,000 in additional funding. This extra funding would be annually, subject to change based on economic conditions and property sales, and would help reduce the reliance upon tax levy for operational expenditures.

Adopted by the County Board of Langlade
County this 19th day of December, 2022.

Judy Nagel
Judy Nagel, Langlade County Clerk

vr

Request State to Revise the Current Real Estate Transfer Fee Revenue Sharing Formula

1 WHEREAS, the collection of a real estate transfer fee by counties was mandated by the State of
2 Wisconsin in 1969, and included a requirement that counties remit 50% of all transfer fees collected to
3 the State; and
4

5 WHEREAS, in 1981 the State changed the transfer fee formula to require counties to remit 80% of all
6 transfer fees collected to the State; and
7

8 WHEREAS, the County, through the Register of Deeds Office, assumes the annual operating costs of
9 recording all real estate transfers occurring in each County, including the collection of real estate
10 transfer fees; and
11

12 WHEREAS, Monroe County real estate transfer fee collection over the past five years totaled
13 \$3,109,062.90, of which the County retained \$621,812.58 and \$2,487,250.32 was remitted to the State;
14 and
15

16 WHEREAS, using A 50/50 split, the County's share of fees collected on local real estate transfers
17 during that same five year period would have provided an additional \$932,718.87 in support of local
18 government; and
19

20 WHEREAS, in 2021 the State of Wisconsin has built up a budget surplus of approximately \$2.5 billion
21 dollars, while many Wisconsin counties continue to struggle financially due to ever-increasing costs of
22 providing county government services in an inflationary economy and providing services for increasing
23 unfunded State mandated programs along with the financial restrictions imposed by State imposed levy
24 limits.
25

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Monroe County Board of Supervisors that in an effort
27 to assist all Wisconsin Counties, the State of Wisconsin revise the real estate transfer fee share formula
28 to again allow Wisconsin Counties to retain 50% of all real estate transfer fees collected, with 50% to be
29 remitted to the State.
30

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Governor Tony Evers, all
32 members of the State Legislature representing Monroe County, the Wisconsin Counties Association and
33 all other Wisconsin Counties.
34

35 Offered this 21st day of December, 2022 by the Administration & Personnel Committee
36

37 Fiscal note: Revision of the real estate transfer fee share formula to allow the County to retain 50% of
38 all real estate transfer fees collected would provide 30% of additional fee collected to go to the County.
39

40 Statement of purpose: To revise the real estate transfer fee share formula to again allow Wisconsin
41 Counties to retain 50% of all real estate transfer fees collected, with 50% to be remitted to the State.

**RACINE COUNTY CLERK
FILED DEC28'22 AM9:37**

Finance Vote (If required):

___ Yes ___ No ___ Absent

Approved as to form: 12/13/2022

Lisa Aldinger Hamblin
Lisa Aldinger Hamblin, Corporation Counsel

Committee of Jurisdiction Forwarded on: December 13, 2022

VOTE: 5 Yes 0 No 0 Absent

Committee Chair: Walter Heppner
James B. Kuhn Toni Wisvestad

ADOPTED FAILED AMENDED

OTHER _____

County Board Vote on: Dec 21 2022

15 Yes 0 No 1 Absent

STATE OF WISCONSIN
COUNTY OF MONROE

I, SHELLEY R. BOHL, Monroe County Clerk, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution # 12-22-03 acted on by the Monroe County Board of Supervisors at the meeting held on December 21, 2022

Shelley R. Bohl

SHELLEY R. BOHL, MONROE COUNTY CLERK
A raised seal certifies an official document.

RESOLUTION NO. 43-12-22
RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THE STATE REVISE THE CURRENT REAL ESTATE TRANSFER
FEES REVENUE SHARING FORMULA

WHEREAS, the collection of real estate transfer fee by counties was mandated by the State of Wisconsin in 1969, and included a requirement that counties remit 50% of all transfer fees collected to the State; and

WHEREAS, in 1981 the State changed the transfer fee formula to require counties to remit 80% of all transfer fees collected to the State; and

WHEREAS, the County, through the Register of Deeds Office, assumes the annual operating costs of recording all real estate transfers occurring in each county, including the collection of real estate transfer fees; and

WHEREAS, Waushara County real estate transfer fee collections over the past five years totaled \$2,164,196.00 of which the County retained \$432,839.20 and \$1,731,356.80 was remitted to the State; and

WHEREAS, using a 50/50 split, the County's share of the fees collected on local real estate transfers during that same five-year period would have provided an additional \$649,258.80 in support of local government; and

WHEREAS, in 2021 the State of Wisconsin has built up a budget surplus of approximately \$2.5 billion dollars, while many Wisconsin counties continue to struggle financially due to the ever-increasing cost of providing county government services in an inflationary economy and providing services for increasing unfunded State mandated programs along with the financial restrictions imposed by State imposed levy limits.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Waushara County Board of Supervisors that in an effort to assist all Wisconsin counties, the State of Wisconsin revise the real estate transfer fee share formula to again allow Wisconsin counties to retain 50% of all real estate transfer fees collected, with 50% to be remitted to the State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Tony Evers, all members of the State Legislature representing Waushara County, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and all other Wisconsin Counties.

Resolution No. 43-12-22

WAUSHARA COUNTY
REGISTER OF DEEDS
FILED 12/22/2021

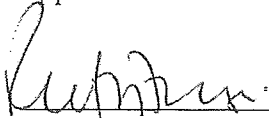
Resolution No. 43-12-22

Ayes 11 Nays 0 Abstain 0 Absent 0 { } Voice Vote

Approved and adopted this 20th day of December 2022.

Denied this 20th day of December 2022.

Approved as to Form:



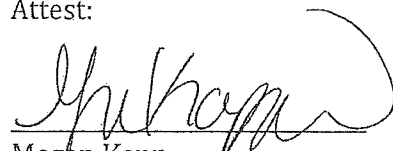
Ruth Zouski
Corporation Counsel

Submitted by:



John Jarvis, Chair
Executive Committee

Attest:



Megan Kapp
Waushara County Clerk

Signed by:



John Jarvis, Chair
Waushara County Board of Supervisors

RESOLUTION 1-1-23
***Resolution Requesting State to Revise the Current Real Estate Transfer
Fees Revenue Sharing Formula***

WHEREAS, the collection by counties of a real estate transfer fee was mandated by the State of Wisconsin in 1969, and included a requirement that counties remit 50% of all transfer fees collected to the State; and

WHEREAS, in 1981 the State arbitrarily changed the transfer fee formula to now require counties to remit to the State 80% of all transfer fees collected; and

WHEREAS, the County through the Register of Deeds office assumes the annual operating costs of recording all real estate transfers occurring in Green County, including the collection of real estate transfer fees; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, Green County collected \$780,939.30 in real estate transfer fees with the County's 20% retained share totaling \$156,187.86, and was required to remit 80% or \$624,751.44 to the State; and

WHEREAS, Green County real estate transfer fee collections as averaged over the past five years totaled \$2,975,955.90 of which the County retained \$595,191.18; and over that same time period \$2,380,764.72 was remitted to the State; and

WHEREAS, in 2021 the State of Wisconsin has built up a budget surplus of approximately \$2.5 billion dollars, while many Wisconsin counties continue to struggle financially due to the ever-increasing costs of providing county government services in an inflationary economy, coupled with the financial restrictions imposed by State mandated levy limits; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to financially assist all Wisconsin counties, Green County requests that the State of Wisconsin return the real estate transfer fee share formula to again allow Wisconsin counties to retain 50% of all total real estate transfer fees collected, with 50% to be remitted to the State.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Green County Board of Supervisors, in legal session assembled, does hereby request that the State of Wisconsin revise the real estate transfer fee share formula to allow Wisconsin counties to retain 50% of all real estate transfer fees collected, with 50% to be remitted to the State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution is sent to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Counties Association, all Wisconsin County Boards, and to local members of the State Legislature.

RACINE COUNTY CLERK
FILED JAN12'23 AM10:49

