

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-14

RESOLUTION BY HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE URGING THE STATE LEGISLATURE AND THE GOVERNOR TO ENACT LEGISLATION TO ACHIEVE SAVINGS BY ALLOWING COUNTIES TO CONTINUE ADMINISTERING DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES INCOME MAINTENANCE PROGRAMS INDIVIDUALLY AND IN MULTI-COUNTY CONSORTIA

To the Honorable Members of the Racine County Board of Supervisors:

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin allocated \$156 million to counties to facilitate Department of Health Services (DHS) Income Maintenance (IM) programs in the 2009 -2011 state budget; and

WHEREAS, the Governor’s 2011-2013 budget proposes to reduce the State’s funding to counties for DHS IM programs to \$109 million, in part by centralizing such programs; and

WHEREAS, such centralization would cut \$2.2 million in direct and indirect costs from Racine County’s Human Services Department budget, while at the same time fragmenting services and making access more difficult for Racine County citizens who need such IM programs; and

WHEREAS, Human Services Directors from counties around the State have developed a model that would allow counties to continue administering DHS IM programs, and would permit the State to achieve substantial savings without reducing IM funding to the counties; and

WHEREAS, in this model, counties would absorb the State’s current caseload of some DHS IM cases in a central enrollment service center that now costs the State \$37 million annually; and

WHEREAS, the counties’ absorption of that caseload would, by itself, permit the State to achieve nearly the savings that it seeks through wholesale centralization of DHS IM cases; and

WHEREAS, this model would also allow counties to form consortia that would permit further service consolidation and, through economies of scale, further cost savings, and this model could serve as a template for multi-county collaborations with respect to other types of programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Racine County Board of Supervisors that it calls upon the Wisconsin Legislature and the Governor to enact, in the 2011-2013 budget, legislation to achieve savings by allowing counties to continue administering DHS IM programs individually and in multi-county consortia.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk is directed to provide a copy of this resolution to the Governor of Wisconsin, to Racine County’s state legislative delegation, and to the Wisconsin Counties Association.

Respectfully submitted,

1st Reading

HEALTH & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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4 2nd Reading _____

Pamela Zenner-Richards, Chairman

7 BOARD ACTION
8 Adopted _____
9 For _____
10 Against _____
11 Absent _____

Gaynell Dyess, Vice-Chairman

Robert N. Miller, Secretary

13 VOTE REQUIRED: Majority

Gilbert Bakke

16 Prepared by:
17 Corporation Counsel

David J. Cooke

Jeff Halbach

23 **The foregoing legislation adopted by the County Board of Supervisors of**
24 **Racine County, Wisconsin, is hereby:**

26 **Approved:** _____

27 **Vetoed:** _____

29 **Date:** _____,

31 _____
32 **James A. Ladwig, County Executive**