

1 By Supervisors Nicholson, Shea, Clancy, Moore Omokunde, Johnson, Jr., Czarnzeki,
2 Taylor, and Haas

3 File No. 20-678
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6 **A RESOLUTION**
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8 To allocate \$35,000 from Org. Unit 1940-1945 – Appropriation for Contingencies to Org.
9 Unit 8000 for allocation to the Local 212 Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC)
10 Faculty and Students Together Fund (FAST Fund) to specifically mitigate student
11 housing insecurity so pupils can graduate and become successful
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14 WHEREAS, the Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC) is Wisconsin’s only
15 majority-minority college and MATC reports approximately 70 percent of its students are
16 low-income and 83 percent of its students are Milwaukee County residents; and
17

18 WHEREAS, according to the 2015 University of Wisconsin – Madison study
19 titled, “Hungry to Learn: Addressing Food & Housing Insecurity Among
20 Undergraduates”, “[H]alf of all community college students are struggling with food
21 and/or housing insecurity. Fully 20 percent are hungry and 13 percent are homeless.
22 These numbers are startling and indicate the need for a multi-pronged, comprehensive
23 set of institutional, state, and local policies to alleviate the barriers presented by poverty,
24 so as to improve educational success.”; and
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26 WHEREAS, motivated by the aforementioned study, the American Federation of
27 Teachers Local 212, representing faculty and staff of MATC since 1930, created the
28 Faculty and Students Together Fund (FAST Fund) in 2016 as an independent nonprofit
29 to help ensure hunger, transportation, housing instability, and poverty are not learning
30 obstacles, so students may focus on their studies, remain enrolled, and graduate to
31 move on to successful careers; and
32

33 WHEREAS, the Milwaukee Public Television (MPTV) program *Adelante* featured
34 a segment about MATC’s FAST Fund which reported:
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- 36 • Many students are lower middle class, poor, or do not qualify for financial aid
- 37 • 61 percent of students qualify for Pell Grants, which are typically awarded only to
38 low-income students
- 39 • Current and retired MATC faculty and staff have been the Fund’s primary donors
40

41 ; and

42 WHEREAS, the FAST Fund Director reports the Fund has helped students meet
 43 these basic needs so they may focus on studying:

Academic Year	Dollars Raised	Total Students Helped	Students Helped by Type of Aid				
			Housing	Food	Tuition/ College Costs	Transportation	Other
'16-'17	\$21,950	26	12	-	14	-	-
'17-'18	\$47,990	109	43	3	45	18	12
'18-'19	\$53,320	153	53	30	23	33	14
'19-'20	\$89,294	298*	105	40	99	25	36

*Some students received multiple forms of aid, therefore adding the types of aid will exceed 298

45
 46 ; and

47
 48
 49 WHEREAS, according to a May 2020 Brookings Institution report titled,
 50 “Opportunity Engines: Middle-Class Mobility in Higher Education,” at least some form of
 51 higher education is required for upward mobility and middle-class living, particularly
 52 from institutions which have higher per pupil instructional spending; and

53
 54 WHEREAS, according to an August 2020 Georgetown University report titled,
 55 “Driving Home Costs Beyond Tuition: A New Look at Older Students’ Challenges
 56 Affording Housing,” higher education costs beyond tuition are 2.5 to 4 times greater
 57 than tuition, with a greater burden falling on older students due to their typically
 58 increased responsibilities, with housing being the single biggest challenge; and

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 60 WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of September 17, 2020,
 61 recommended adoption of File No. 20-678 (vote 7-0); now, therefore,

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 63 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby
 64 authorizes and directs the Office of the Comptroller and the Department of
 65 Administrative Services to process an administrative transfer of \$35,000 from Org. Unit
 66 1940-1945 Appropriation for Contingencies to Org. Unit 8000 – Department of Health
 67 and Human Services Housing Division to distribute to the Local 212 Milwaukee Area
 68 Technical College (MATC) Faculty and Students Together (FAST) Fund specifically to
 69 mitigate student housing insecurity to remove a barrier to graduation and success; and
 70

71 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Housing Division is requested to make
72 contingent upon Milwaukee County's appropriation to the FAST Fund an agreement
73 whereby Milwaukee County may review the financial records of the FAST Fund upon
74 request to verify taxpayer dollars are spent toward student housing insecurity.

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77 09/17/2020

78 S:\Committees\2020\Sept\FINANCE\Resolutions\20-678 MATC FAST Fund - no edits.docx