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A resolution by Supervisors Lipscomb, Sr., and Sartori, opposing Wisconsin Assembly Bill 361, which proposes changes to county and municipal vehicle registration fees, by recommending adoption of the following:

AN AMENDED RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, currently, a county or municipality may enact an ordinance imposing an annual flat vehicle registration fee (VRF) on motor vehicles, and the fees collected are required to be used for transportation-related purposes; and

WHEREAS, the 2017 Adopted Budget established a \$30 VRF to support Milwaukee County's (the County) transportation-related needs; and

WHEREAS, in April 2017, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board) asked County residents if they would support increasing the VRF from \$30 to \$60; and

WHEREAS, in the April 2017 referendum, 72 percent of voters rejected the County Executive's proposal to double the VRF, and the County Board then eliminated the County Executive's proposal for increasing the VRF in the 2018 Adopted Budget; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin Assembly Bill 361, introduced in June 2017, requires that any new or previously enacted county or municipal VRF must be approved through a referendum; and

WHEREAS, the County Board made budgetary decisions based on the enacted \$30 VRF and removing the funding from the VRF would require drastic service cuts in transportation and across the County; and

WHEREAS, the current \$30 VRF strikes a balance between addressing the fiscal pressures faced by the County and the concerns and financial strains of residents; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Intergovernmental Relations, at its meeting of February 1, 2018, recommended adoption of File No. 18-165 (vote 4-1); now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board) opposes the provision in Wisconsin Assembly Bill 361, which requires a county to hold a referendum on a vehicle registration fee (VRF) previously imposed; and

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~~BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Board would support a provision in Wisconsin Assembly Bill 361, which would require a referendum to increase a VRF, as this is consistent with actions previously taken by Milwaukee County; and~~

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Board's Legislative Liaison of the Office of Government Affairs is authorized and directed to advocate on behalf of the County Board on the policy positions outlined in this resolution.

jmj
02/01/18
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