

3
4
5 **A RESOLUTION**
6

7 Calling upon the State of Wisconsin to amend its statutes to waive the annual fishing
8 license fee for residents 65 and older in Wisconsin
9

10 WHEREAS, fishing is a popular recreational activity in Milwaukee County and
11 throughout Wisconsin, which provides numerous personal and environmental benefits;
12 and
13

14 WHEREAS, the simple act of casting and reeling a fishing rod can provide
15 essential movement that aids with hand strength, motor skills and dexterity, especially in
16 older adults; and
17

18 WHEREAS, fishing as an activity can provide a relaxing, quiet environment that
19 allows residents to enjoy the outdoors and can reduce stress or feelings of anxiety,
20 benefiting the social, mental and physical wellness of participants; and
21

22 WHEREAS, the American Heart Association advises that the consumption of two
23 3.5-ounce servings of non-fried fish can reduce the risk of heart disease, stroke, heart
24 failure, sudden cardiac death and congestive heart failure; and
25

26 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County residents should be advised that City of
27 Milwaukee Health Department has published recommended consumption limits on fish
28 caught in Lake Michigan and other waterways throughout the County to limit
29 consumption of PCBs and Mercury; and
30

31 WHEREAS, elimination of the annual fishing license fee for those 65 and older
32 would reduce barriers to fishing and the numerous benefits it entails and make the
33 natural resources of Milwaukee County more accessible; and
34

35 WHEREAS, the Committee on Intergovernmental Relations, at its meeting of
36 March 6, 2023, recommended adoption of File No. 23-355 (vote 5-0); now, therefore,
37

38 BE IT RESOLVED, Milwaukee County hereby calls upon the State of Wisconsin
39 to amend Section 29.563 of the Wisconsin State Statutes to eliminate the seven-dollar
40 fee for an annual fishing license for residents 65 and older; and
41

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Office of Government Affairs staff is authorized
43 and requested to communicate the contents of this resolution to state policymakers.
44