

1 By Supervisors Taylor and Borkowski
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4 **A RESOLUTION**
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6 requesting that the State Legislature amend State Statutes to grant Milwaukee County
7 the authority, as is afforded to other Wisconsin counties, to reduce the number of
8 County Board Supervisors between the decennial redistricting plan process
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11 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County adopted a new County Board Supervisory district
12 plan in 2011 using data from the decennial census that was collected in 2010 to
13 establish 18 districts beginning with the term commencing in April 2012; and
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15 WHEREAS, the decennial census data is used to develop the next decennial
16 supervisory redistricting plan to ensure, among other things, districts have
17 approximately the same number of constituents and minority groups are considered in
18 determining the number of districts and the boundaries of each; and
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20 WHEREAS, special legislation was enacted by the State Legislature on July 21,
21 2003, (2003 Wisconsin Act 32) to allow only Milwaukee County to decrease the number
22 of Supervisors not more than once prior to November 15, 2010; and
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24 WHEREAS, using this one-time authority between the decennial census process,
25 Milwaukee County reduced the number of County Board Supervisors from 25 to 19
26 beginning with the term commencing in April 2004; and
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28 WHEREAS, other Wisconsin counties also petitioned the State Legislature to
29 permit a reduction in the number of Supervisors between the usual decennial
30 supervisory district plan process; and
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32 WHEREAS, 2005 Wisconsin Act 100 was enacted on January 4, 2006, that
33 permitted all other Wisconsin Counties, except Milwaukee and Menomonee, to reduce
34 the number of Supervisors one time prior to the next decennial supervisory district plan
35 by County Board approval or through a petition and referendum process; and
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37 WHEREAS, some Supervisors are calling for the County Board to be downsized
38 prior to the next decennial supervisory district plan process, and are seeking through
39 this resolution the necessary tools from the State Legislature so that the decision on the
40 composition of the County Board can be made locally; and
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42 WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors recently unveiled OUR
43 Milwaukee, or Outreach for Unified Reform, which is aimed at comprehensive, inclusive
44 and local government reform; and
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46 WHEREAS, the ability to reduce the size of the County Board between the
47 decennial supervisory plan process is a local government tool that should be extended
48 to Milwaukee County, as it is already to all other Wisconsin counties; now, therefore,
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50 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby
51 supports passage of State legislation to grant Milwaukee County the authority to reduce
52 the number of Supervisory districts between the regular decennial redistricting plan
53 process, as is currently allowed for other Wisconsin counties; and
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55 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Director of Intergovernmental Relations is
56 authorized and directed to seek State legislation to extend this local government reform
57 tool to Milwaukee County and to communicate the contents of this resolution to all
58 parties necessary to effectuate the passage of such legislation.