

5 **A RESOLUTION**
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7 in support of full GPR Funding for Medical Assistance Community Support
8 Programs (MA CSP) and Mental Health Crisis Services in Wisconsin's 2025-27 State
9 Biennial Budget
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12 WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors expresses legislative
13 support on mental health issues, which are critically important to our community; and
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15 WHEREAS, the County is concerned that the public mental health system in
16 Wisconsin is in need of additional resources to respond appropriately to the needs of
17 individuals with persistent mental illness and those experiencing a mental health crisis;
18 and
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20 WHEREAS, state law designates counties with the responsibility for the well-
21 being, treatment, and care of individuals with mental illness, and serving those without
22 private insurance coverage; and
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24 WHEREAS, the Medical Assistance program (MA) covers an array of mental
25 health services, ranging from office-based therapy to inpatient hospitalization, and many
26 of these services are delivered by counties; and
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28 WHEREAS, Community Support Programs (CSP) offer intensive community-
29 based care for adults whose mental illness and functional limitations might otherwise
30 require them to need institutionalized care; and
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32 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County uses CSP services to keep people out of
33 extended hospitalizations and to support individuals in the community following
34 emergency detentions; and
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36 WHEREAS, counties are required to provide Crisis intervention services
37 including an emergency mental health services program to serve persons in crisis
38 situations; at a minimum, 24-hour crisis telephone service and 24-hour in-person
39 response on an on-call basis; and
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41 WHEREAS, while the state pays the full cost of most MA services, when it comes
42 to county- based CSP and Crisis mental health services, the county finances the cost of
43 these services upfront and receives MA reimbursement for only the federal share of

44 those services; and

45 WHEREAS, Community Aids funding has not kept pace over the years with
46 increased county costs for services, resulting in counties bearing a disproportionate
47 share of CSP and Crisis service costs from county tax levy; and
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49 WHEREAS, counties are limited in their capacity to use tax levy revenue due to
50 state levy limits, and the lack of increases in Community Aids funding, combined with
51 strict property tax controls, makes it difficult for counties to maintain Crisis and CSP
52 services; and
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54 WHEREAS, in addition to the costs to county human service departments,
55 counties and municipalities also incur law enforcement costs to transport and provide
56 security for persons in a crisis; and
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58 WHEREAS, the awareness of the 988 National Suicide & Crisis Lifeline has
59 made mental health assessment and referral more readily available, resulting in more
60 demand on the mental health crisis systems; and
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62 WHEREAS, stagnant state funding results in variations in the extent of services
63 available across counties, wait lists for services, and eligible people receiving limited
64 services; and
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66 WHEREAS, the limited state funding for Crisis services makes it difficult for
67 counties to implement new evidence-based services, such as mobile crisis workers who
68 could meet law enforcement officers in the field for crisis calls, thereby reducing the
69 need for law enforcement involvement and providing a more trauma-informed response
70 to crisis situations; and
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72 WHEREAS, Wisconsin's counties continue to cover the costs of mental health
73 services for individuals who are not Medicaid eligible; and
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75 WHEREAS, the Committee on Intergovernmental Relations (IGR), at its meeting
76 of September 9, 2024, laid over File No. 24-742 for one meeting (vote 3-0); and
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78 WHEREAS, IGR, at its meeting of December 2, 2024, recommended adoption of
79 File No. 24-742 (vote 3-0); now, therefore,
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81 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors does
82 hereby request that the state of Wisconsin, in its 2025-27 state biennial budget, provide
83 state GPR funding to cover the full non-federal share of Medical Assistance (MA)
84 Community Support Programs (CSP) and Crisis services; and
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86 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Clerk is hereby

87 authorized and directed to send a copy of this Resolution to the Governor of the State of
88 Wisconsin, Wisconsin State Legislators with a constituency within Milwaukee County,
89 the Milwaukee County Mental Health Board, and the Wisconsin Counties Association.
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92 12/02/24

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