

1 By Supervisors O'Connor, Martinez, Gómez-Tom,
2 Bielinski, Capriolo, Johnson, Jr., Vincent, Shea, and
3 Roundtree Jr.

File No. 26-337

4
5 **A RESOLUTION**
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7 To safeguard constitutional rights and ensure equal application of the law through
8 responsible local governance and equitable federal funding
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10 WHEREAS, the United States was founded on the principle that no person is
11 above the law and that government derives its authority from the consent of the
12 governed; and
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14 WHEREAS, the Constitution of the United States establishes a system of checks
15 and balances designed to prevent the concentration of power in any single branch of
16 government or individual; and
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18 WHEREAS, the rule of law is fundamental to the protection of individual rights,
19 the fair administration of justice, and the preservation of democracy; and
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21 WHEREAS, the framers of our Constitution rejected monarchy and tyranny, and
22 affirmed that leadership must remain accountable to the people; and
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24 WHEREAS, the "No Kings" movement affirms that fidelity to constitutional
25 principles—not loyalty to one leader—remains the cornerstone of our Republic; and
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27 WHEREAS, the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution protects citizens' rights
28 to peaceful assembly, free speech, and nonviolent protest; and
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30 WHEREAS, the Fourth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution protects citizens
31 from unlawful searches and seizures of their homes, vehicles and personal property
32 without judicial warrants; and
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34 WHEREAS, recent actions by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in
35 other American cities have violated individuals' First Amendment and Fourth
36 Amendment rights; and
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38 WHEREAS, additional decisions by the federal government to abruptly cancel
39 and then reinstate funding for critical local programs have created an environment of
40 increased uncertainty for Milwaukee County; and

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42 WHEREAS, fiscal unpredictability at the federal level has complicated Milwaukee
43 County's ability to deliver essential services, including public safety, health care, and
44 transportation; and

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46 WHEREAS, proposed funding cancellations have disregarded the merit and
47 impact of programs and initiatives; and

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49 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County's ability to enhance the quality of life for residents
50 through high-quality public services is threatened by unpredictable actions by the
51 federal government; and

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53 WHEREAS, at times of division and uncertainty, it is vital for citizens and public
54 institutions alike to reaffirm their commitment to the Constitution and to the equal
55 application of law; and

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57 WHEREAS, adherence to constitution principles and predictable government are
58 essential to maintaining the rule of law and protecting democratic institutions; and

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60 WHEREAS, the Committee on Intergovernmental Relations, at its meeting of
61 May 22, 2026, recommended adoption of File No. 26-337 (vote 5-0); now, therefore,

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63 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors reaffirms its
64 commitment to constitutional governance, the separation of powers, and the equal
65 application of the law, and rejects actions that undermine these principles; and

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67 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board calls upon Milwaukee's
68 congressional delegation to ensure reliable, transparent, and predictable federal fiscal
69 policies that allow Milwaukee County to responsibly plan and deliver essential services;
70 and

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72 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board pledges to uphold these principles
73 in all County governance and public service, and calls upon all Milwaukee County
74 residents, regardless of political affiliation, to renew their shared commitment to liberty,
75 equality, and justice; and,

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77 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Office of Government
78 Affairs shall communicate the contents of this resolution to members of the United
79 States Congress representing Milwaukee County, the Wisconsin Counties Association
80 and other relevant federal and state officials.

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83 05/22/26

84 s://committees/2026/May/IGR/Resolutions/26-337 o'connor responsible governance.docx