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5 **A RESOLUTION**
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7 Supporting and requesting the State of Wisconsin to adopt legislation to allow
8 undocumented immigrants the ability to obtain a driver's license or State ID
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10 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County prioritizes inclusivity in allowing all citizens,
11 regardless of race and income, to apply for and obtain proper documentation; and
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13 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County immigrants who are undocumented face various
14 challenges when looking to purchase homes, apply for loans, and seek employment
15 without proper and legal identification; and
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17 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County residents, specifically immigrant communities,
18 need a streamlined process to legally apply for a driver's license, as they provide labor
19 and contribute to the local economy; and
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21 WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin passed Act 126 in March 2006, which took
22 effect on April 1, 2007, which resulted in undocumented immigrants and people who do
23 not have a social security number no longer being able to renew or obtain a driver's
24 license or state identification; and
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26 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County faces increasing levels of vehicle hit and runs,
27 traffic violations, and improper driving principles, thus undocumented immigrants face
28 extenuating circumstances when experiencing vehicles crashes without proper
29 identification; and
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31 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County's undocumented immigrant community with legal
32 driver's licenses can further contribute to the economy through buying homes, applying
33 for loans, and finding employment; and
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35 WHEREAS, Voces de la Frontera, a community non-profit based in Wisconsin,
36 has advocated for undocumented immigrants and encouraged Governor Evers to
37 include easier access to driver's license registration in his Executive Budget; and
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39 WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors adopted File No. 19-
40 273 on March 21, 2019, supporting the proposal by Governor Evers in the 2019-2021
41 Wisconsin Executive Budget, to extend eligibility for driver licenses and identification
42 cards for undocumented individuals subsequent to fulfillment of State skills and
43 knowledge standards; and
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45 WHEREAS, the proposal to extend eligibility for driver licenses and identification
46 cards for undocumented individuals was not adopted by the Wisconsin Legislature in
47 Governor Evers' previous budget; and
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49 WHEREAS, Governor Evers has included a clearer pathway for undocumented
50 immigrants in previous budgets to obtain a driver's license without a social security
51 number, as he has chosen to also include a line item with the same pathway in his
52 2023-2025 budget; and
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54 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County's undocumented immigrant community obtaining
55 legal drivers licenses has now garnered bipartisan support in the state legislature; and
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57 WHEREAS, the Committee on Intergovernmental Relations, at its meeting of
58 September 15, 2023, recommended adoption of File No. 23-625 (vote 4-1); now,
59 therefore,
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61 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby supports
62 and urges the State of Wisconsin to pass legislation allowing undocumented immigrants
63 the ability to obtain a driver's license or State ID; and
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65 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Office of Government Affairs staff is
66 authorized and requested to communicate the contents of this resolution to State
67 policymakers and support adoption of legislation as outlined in this resolution.
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70 09/15/23
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