

1 By Supervisor Biddle

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3 **A RESOLUTION**

4 supporting a change in State law to increase the age in which a person is eligible to  
5 have his or her record of conviction expunged and ensuring expunged criminal records  
6 are not released to the general public

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8 WHEREAS, Wisconsin law permits courts to expunge records in which  
9 adjudication of guilt is made for youths under the age of 25 when the misdemeanor or  
10 first-time non-violent Class H or I felonies offense was committed; and

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12 WHEREAS, a criminal record can severely hinder a person's ability to gain  
13 employment throughout their life and can lead to chronic unemployment and  
14 underemployment; and

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16 WHEREAS, without access to the employment necessary for successful re-entry  
17 to society, many ex-offenders find themselves resorting to behaviors that harm  
18 themselves and the community, perpetuating a cycle of re-offense and incarceration;  
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21 WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ), Crime Information  
22 Bureau manages and disseminates information on arrest and conviction information on  
23 over 1.3 million individuals; every record in the database is supported by a positive  
24 fingerprint identification and is open to the general public for inspection per Wisconsin  
25 Statute 19.35(30); and

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27 WHEREAS, a criminal conviction, when legally expunged, is removed from the  
28 Consolidated Court Automation Programs (CCAP) database, although it is still  
29 maintained on the DOJ Crime Information Bureau database; and

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31 WHEREAS, while many members of the public use the CCAP database to view  
32 an individual's criminal history, most potential employers obtain their information from  
33 the DOJ Crime Information Bureau, which may contain expunged records; and

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35 WHEREAS, the opportunity to expunge a criminal conviction provides an  
36 incentive to young individuals to learn from their mistakes and, hopefully, make  
37 meaningful strides to be employed and be a productive citizen our the community; now,  
38 therefore,

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40 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors embraces  
41 efforts by young individuals with prior criminal convictions to seek the expungement of  
42 minor criminal convictions, as provided in State law, to help obtain meaningful  
43 employment to support themselves and their families and to improve our community;  
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes and directs the Director of Intergovernmental Relations to seek changes in State law to accomplish the following:

- Raise the age to which an eligible criminal infraction may be expunged to under age 30, as opposed to under age 25
- Require the Department of Justice, Crime Information Bureau, to redact any expunged criminal conviction from any record that is released to members of the general public while preserving the full record for legitimate law enforcement use