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4 **A RESOLUTION**

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6 Appointing incumbent members of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors to fill
7 vacant County Board seats, as outlined in Milwaukee County General Ordinance
8 Section 1.30 *County Board Self-Organization*, until the county clerk issues certificates of
9 election if the new County Board is not able to be inducted on April 20, 2020 due to
10 legal challenges or a delay in certifying the results
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13 WHEREAS, the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic has been a global public
14 health concern since the end of 2019 when it was first discovered abroad and has been
15 a severe crisis in the United States since February 2020; and
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17 WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin originally scheduled the 2020 Spring election
18 for April 7, 2020; and
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20 WHEREAS, due to COVID-19, lack of poll workers, and the State of Wisconsin's
21 Safer at Home Order, Governor Evers released Executive Order #74, suspending in-
22 person voting on April 7, 2020; and
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24 WHEREAS, in-person voting, according to the Order, was to be tentatively
25 rescheduled for June 9, 2020, unless otherwise determined by the State of Wisconsin
26 Legislature, Governor, or Supreme Court; and
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28 WHEREAS, the Order states: "those individuals currently serving in an office to
29 be filled based upon the results of the Spring 2020 election ballot are authorized to
30 continue fulfilling the duties of those offices, and exercising the privileges of those
31 offices, until three business days after county, municipal, and school district clerks issue
32 certificates of election"; and
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34 WHEREAS, shortly after the release of the April 6, 2020 Executive Order #74,
35 the State of Wisconsin Supreme Court reinstated in-person voting for April 7, 2020; and
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37 WHEREAS, on April 6, 2020, the Supreme Court of the United States ruled that
38 all absentee ballots must be postmarked by or on April 7, 2020, overruling a previous
39 federal court decision allowing an extension on the return of absentee ballots; and
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41 WHEREAS, a portion of a federal judge's order still stands that prohibits the
42 reporting of election results until April 13th to allow for mail-in ballots to be received and
43 tallied; and

44 WHEREAS, the individuals serving in the offices of the Milwaukee County Board
45 of Supervisors were to be filled based upon the results of the 2020 Spring election; and
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47 WHEREAS, based on Executive Order #74, those incumbent individuals would
48 be able to continue to serve in their offices until three days after the certificates of
49 election have been issued; and
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51 WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Office of Corporation Counsel provided
52 guidance on April 1, 2020 that the "County Board may then act to 'self-organize'
53 Milwaukee County and fill vacant board seats by appointment, subject to the typical
54 County Executive signature/veto process"; and
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56 WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Office of Corporation Counsel advises the
57 adoption of a resolution and ordinance "declaring itself to be self-organized" (See File
58 No. 20-300) and the adoption of a separate resolution to fill vacancies created by the
59 postponement of the election; and
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61 WHEREAS, the incumbent elected officials of the Milwaukee County Board of
62 Supervisors, in self-organizing, will agree to serve in the office and will resign after the
63 certification of the 2020 Spring election, whenever that may occur; and
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65 WHEREAS, COVID-19 has created uncertainty for the citizens of Milwaukee
66 County and concern regarding the stability of the vital services offered by Milwaukee
67 County government; and
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69 WHEREAS, it is imperative that the self-organization and appointment of the
70 current members of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors inspire confidence and
71 stability; and
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73 WHEREAS, strong leadership and guidance is needed as we navigate an
74 unprecedented global pandemic, which can be established through a self-organization
75 that reflects the current makeup of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors; and
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77 WHEREAS, all incumbent Supervisors will retain their offices, including the
78 holdover of the current leadership and standing committee structure, until the
79 resignation of the offices when the certification of the 2020 Spring election occurs; and
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81 WHEREAS, per Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances Chapter 1.02,
82 the first meeting of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors will be after the election
83 of supervisors and shall be for the purposes of organizing the county board; and
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85 WHEREAS, the special organizational meeting of the Milwaukee County Board
86 of Supervisors will occur as soon as practicable following the certification of the 2020
87 Spring election; and

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WHEREAS, although the Governor's Order indicated incumbent individuals would be able to continue to serve in their offices until three days after the certificates of election have been issued, other issues may arise challenging the validity of that order and appointments under a self-organizing serve to protect the citizens of Milwaukee County that the Board of Supervisors can still perform its duties; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby appoints the following individuals, incumbent members of the Board, to serve as the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors from April 20, 2020 to the date of the certificates of election are issued for the Spring Elections that were held on April 7, 2020:

- District #1 Theodore Lipscomb, Sr.
- District #2 Sequanna Taylor
- District #3 Sheldon A. Wasserman
- District #4 Marina Dimitrijevic
- District #5 Marcelia Nicholson
- District #6 James "Luigi" Schmitt
- District #7 Felesia A. Martin
- District #8 Steven Shea
- District #9 Patti Logsdon
- District #10 Supreme Moore Omokunde
- District #11 Dan Sebring
- District #12 Sylvia Ortiz-Velez
- District #13 Willie Johnson, Jr.
- District #14 Jason Haas
- District #15 Eddie Cullen
- District #16 John F. Weishan, Jr.
- District #17 Anthony Staskunas
- District #18 Deanna Alexander

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the leadership of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors will remain the same as it exists on April 19, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the membership of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors standing committees will remain the same as it exists on April 19, 2020, including chairperson and vice-chairperson appointments; and

129 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Supervisors appointed in this resolution
130 shall resign after the issuance of the certificate of election so that the newly elected
131 County Board members can be inducted; and

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133 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the provisions of this resolution shall not be
134 exercised if the Spring 2020 election results can be certified and a new County Board
135 sworn into office at the organizational meeting scheduled for April 20, 2020.