

1 By Supervisor Bowen

File No. 13-

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5 **A RESOLUTION**

6 in support of Assembly Bill 53 and Senate Bill 38 requiring the state to take action to qualify for
7 enhanced Medicaid funding
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9 WHEREAS, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) was signed into law
10 in 2010; and
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12 WHEREAS, the ACA pursued reforms to the country's health care system that would
13 result in: stronger consumer rights and protections, more affordable coverage, better access to
14 care, and stronger Medicare; and
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16 WHEREAS, while implementation of the ACA was challenged in the courts, the majority
17 of the law was upheld by the United States Supreme Court; and
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19 WHEREAS, the ACA sought to require states to expand Medicaid eligibility up to at
20 least 133 percent of the Federal Poverty Line (FPL) for all U.S. residents, but the Supreme Court
21 struck down this requirement, and instead made the expansion a choice for states; and
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23 WHEREAS, Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker announced his intention to turn down
24 new federal dollars for the State's Medicaid program in his 2013-2015 Recommended State
25 Biennial Budget; and
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27 WHEREAS, the governor's proposal would result in an estimated 88,000 adults who
28 currently qualify for BadgerCare to be dropped; and
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30 WHEREAS, in 2014, thousands of Wisconsin's Medicaid recipients will be placed in
31 private health insurance exchanges and required to pay premiums; and
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33 WHEREAS, the transition from Medicaid to private insurance and the premium cost
34 could result in the loss of health care due to confusion and inability to pay; and
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36 WHEREAS, in April 2013, the Milwaukee County Board voted to receive and place on
37 file a report (File No. 13-365) by the Community Advocates Public Policy Institute, titled, *The*
38 *Impact of the Affordable Care Act on Milwaukee County's Behavioral Health Division*, which
39 detailed the many ways in which the Behavioral Health Division (BHD) could utilize the ACA to
40 increase Medicaid revenue; and
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42 WHEREAS, being underinsured and uninsured impacts local health and human service
43 departments, including BHD, because it can lead to untreated mental health or substance abuse
44 and lack of preventative health care; and
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WHEREAS, Wisconsin Assembly Bill 53, and its companion, Senate Bill 38, require the state to take action to qualify for enhanced Medicaid funding; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby supports State Assembly Bill 53 and Senate Bill 38, and urges state officials to accept enhanced federal Medicaid funding to improve the State's BadgerCare program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Clerk shall forward a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor, and members of the Milwaukee County Delegation in the State Legislature.