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3 The Milwaukee County Zoo Director requests the Milwaukee County Board of
4 Supervisors pass a resolution supporting a ban on the sale of rhinoceros horn and
5 elephant ivory in Wisconsin, by recommending adoption of the following:
6

7 **A REVISED RESOLUTION**

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9 WHEREAS, rhinoceros have horns and elephants have tusks (referred to as
10 ivory), which may be used for traditional medicines, jewelry, and ornamental objects;
11 and
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13 WHEREAS, restrictions exist on international trade for all species of rhinoceros
14 and elephants, under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of
15 Wild Fauna and Flora; and
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17 WHEREAS, all species of rhinoceros and elephants are assessed by United
18 States Fish and Wildlife Service as Threatened or Endangered; and
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20 WHEREAS, poaching of rhinoceros and elephants in pursuit of rhinoceros horn
21 or elephant ivory is a major issue in international trade; and
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23 WHEREAS, international trade of poached rhinoceros horn and elephant ivory
24 has been documented to fund militias and terrorist groups in Africa; and
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26 WHEREAS, bans on the sale of rhinoceros horn and elephant ivory have been
27 passed in California, Hawaii, Illinois, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York,
28 Oregon, and Washington; and
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30 WHEREAS, a ban on the sale of rhinoceros horn and elephant ivory in the State
31 of Wisconsin (the State) could help to reduce the market forces driving poaching of
32 rhinoceros and elephants; and
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34 WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Zoological Gardens (the Zoo), is home to
35 species from seven continents, including Black Rhinoceros and African Elephants; and
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37 WHEREAS, the Zoo annually supports wildlife conservation organizations
38 working to protect rhinoceros and elephants in their natural range; and
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40 WHEREAS, more than 14,000 Zoo guests have signed a statement supporting a
41 ban on the sale of rhinoceros horn and elephant ivory in the State to date; and
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43 WHEREAS, the Committee on Intergovernmental Relations, at its meeting of
44 March 12, 2020, recommended adoption of File No. 19-756 (vote 4-0); now, therefore,
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46 BE IT RESOLVED, the Director, Milwaukee County Zoological Gardens
47 (the Zoo), and the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board) support
48 future State-level legislation banning the sale of rhinoceros horn and elephant ivory; and
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50 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Board supports the Zoo in their efforts
51 to protect rhinoceros and elephants in their natural range; and
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53 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Board condemns the poaching of
54 rhinoceros and elephants, and the sale of rhinoceros horn and elephant ivory; and
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56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Board supports a ban on the sale of
57 rhinoceros horn and elephant ivory in the State of Wisconsin (the State); and
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59 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Office of Government Affairs staff is
60 authorized and requested to communicate the contents of this resolution, and the more
61 than 14,000 signatures gathered by the Zoo, to State policymakers, and support
62 legislation that achieves the criteria outlined in this resolution.
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67 s:\committees\2020\mar\igr\resolutions\19-756 revised ivory ban.docx