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(ITEM ) A resolution by Supervisors Rainey, Weishan, Jr., and Haas, opposing the Opportunity Schools and Partnership Program proposal pending in the Wisconsin Legislature, by recommending adoption of the following:

**A SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, Article IV, Section 22 of the Wisconsin Constitution provides that counties shall serve as the administrative entity for State government, providing such services as records management, administration of elections, and law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, Article X, Section 3 of the Wisconsin Constitution provides for the establishment of school districts in Wisconsin for the purpose of carrying out the provision of a free education for the children of this State; and

WHEREAS, through the recent adoption of 2015 Wisconsin Act 55 (“Act 55”) the Wisconsin Legislature created the Opportunity Schools and Partnership Program (OSPP), which requires the Milwaukee County Executive to appoint and supervise a Commissioner who will oversee the turnover of under-resourced and underserved Milwaukee Public School District (MPS) schools to public charter or private voucher school operators; and

WHEREAS, County administrators, including the Milwaukee County Executive, tend to lack the requisite skill, knowledge, and expertise to execute the constitutional mandate to educate children in this State; and

WHEREAS, the proposed program will diminish the power of Milwaukee voters and residents to self-govern their public school district; and

WHEREAS, additionally, Milwaukee County taxpayers, especially those residing outside the City of Milwaukee not served by MPS, should not be expected to support the administration of education in a school district where they lack control over the expenditure of its tax dollars; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Intergovernmental Relations, at its meeting of September 18, 2015, recommended adoption of the substitute resolution (vote 4-1); now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board) opposes the provisions of the Opportunity Schools and Partnership Program (OSPP) proposal approved by the Wisconsin State Legislature and requests the Milwaukee County Executive advocate for its repeal; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, it is the policy of this County that:

- The Commissioner of the (OSPP) may not be an employee of Milwaukee County.
- The Commissioner of the OSPP may not participate in or receive benefits from Milwaukee County’s pension or health care system.
- Milwaukee County employees, including its elected officials, may only engage in activities related to the OSPP that are explicitly mandated by statute, and may not otherwise engage in activities related to the OSPP not specifically required by statute.
- All time spent by Milwaukee County employees and elected officials administering or otherwise engaging in activities related to the OSPP shall be tracked and recorded by each employee or elected official and reported to the County Board on a quarterly basis.
- Milwaukee County shall seek reimbursement for all time spent by its employees or elected officials administering the OSPP.

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Board requests Corporation Counsel produce an analysis of liability issues for Milwaukee County due to this legislation as soon as practicable; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Comptroller is requested to provide the County Board with a cost analysis for Milwaukee County due to this legislation as soon as practicable; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Clerk shall forward copies of this resolution to members of the Milwaukee County delegation of the State Legislature and the Governor.

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