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5 **A RESOLUTION**  
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7 In support of State of Wisconsin legislative changes ensuring access to abortion care  
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10 WHEREAS, the 1973 US Supreme Court ruling in *Roe v. Wade* made access to  
11 safe and legal abortion a Constitutional right in the United States; and  
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13 WHEREAS, in a nearly unprecedented taking of a settled right in the United  
14 States, the US Supreme Court issued a ruling on June 24, 2022 in *Dobbs v. Jackson*  
15 *Women’s Health Organization* which overturned *Roe v. Wade*, allowing states to ban  
16 abortion; and  
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18 WHEREAS, Wisconsin has a 173-year-old criminal abortion law still in its  
19 statutes, from Wisconsin Chapter 133, §§ 10-11, Laws of 1849, as amended in 1858,  
20 which effectively bans all abortions in the state by making it a felony to perform an  
21 abortion with no exception for rape or incest; and  
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23 WHEREAS, Wisconsin’s newer abortion statute, Wis. Stat. § 940.04, does  
24 provide an exception for an abortion if the mother’s life is at risk, but in this medically  
25 sensitive scenario, the statute mandates that medical staff must somehow find two other  
26 doctors to review the case and positively affirm that the mother’s life is indeed at risk,  
27 and that an abortion is medically necessary to save the woman’s life; the statute does  
28 not provide guidelines for how to affirm or deny the maternal health exemption, creating  
29 the potential for delays in decision-making, litigation, and physical harm to the mother;  
30 and  
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32 WHEREAS, a Marquette University Law School poll in July 2022 indicated that  
33 64 percent of Wisconsin residents support access to abortion care in all or most cases,  
34 while only eight percent of Wisconsinites said abortion should be illegal in all cases; and  
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36 WHEREAS, it is clear Wisconsin law is not in line with public sentiment and must  
37 change to be in line with the times; and  
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39 WHEREAS, the Committee on Intergovernmental Relations, at its meeting of  
40 September 12, 2022, made no recommendation regarding File No. 22-927, due to a  
41 parliamentary tie on a motion to adopt (vote 2-1-1); now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby affirms its support and calls upon the State of Wisconsin to protect abortion care as the right to choose and the residents of Milwaukee County and the State of Wisconsin should have access to this healthcare service in their own communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Office of Government Affairs staff is authorized and requested to communicate the contents of this resolution to the Wisconsin Governor and State policymakers, and support legislation that achieves the criteria outlined in this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Office of Government Affairs staff is authorized and directed to provide this resolution to the Wisconsin Counties Association for consideration in its legislative platform.

09/12/22  
s:\committees\2022\september\igr\resolutions\22-927 rolland pro-choice.docx