

1 By Supervisor Weishan

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3 **A RESOLUTION**

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5 allocating \$150,000 to the War Memorial Center from the Appropriation for  
6 Contingencies account to ensure that Milwaukee County continues to “Honor the Dead  
7 by Serving the Living” through the principles of arts and peace  
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10 WHEREAS, in 1945, the Milwaukee County War Memorial Center, Inc., a non-  
11 profit organization, was formed to create a permanent memorial commemorating the  
12 war dead of World War II, and to provide a home for Milwaukee’s growing visual and  
13 performing arts community; to “Honor the Dead by Serving the Living” through the  
14 principles of arts and peace; and  
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16 WHEREAS, the formal mission of the Milwaukee County War Memorial Center,  
17 Inc. is “To serve as a memorial to the veterans of our armed services, their families,  
18 and the community; to provide to all people of the community a state of the art facility  
19 with attractive meeting space; and to recognize and educate, especially the young,  
20 regarding the sacrifice and service made by the veterans of our armed services;” and  
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22 WHEREAS, in an audit dated September 2011, the Milwaukee County Audit  
23 Department highlighted the County’s annual support (in 2011) of \$1,504,594 represents  
24 65.3% of total War Memorial Center revenues, with the remainder generated by  
25 parking, facility rental fees along with catering and beverage commissions and office  
26 rentals; and  
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28 WHEREAS, as part of the \$1.5 million in County tax levy support, \$250,000 is  
29 earmarked in direct funding for the Milwaukee Art Museum and an additional \$600,000  
30 in indirect support for utilities and maintenance associated with the Kahler Art Museum  
31 addition; and  
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33 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep  
34 of the War Memorial facility, but the recent audit estimated that known problems  
35 needing repair, replacement or upgrade at the War Memorial Center total approximately  
36 \$5.3 million, potentially putting significant portions of the \$750 million Milwaukee Art  
37 Museum collection at-risk; and  
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39 WHEREAS, the County Executive’s 2012 Recommended Budget and 2012  
40 Adopted Budget cut the War Memorial Center funding by \$225,689, or 15%, from  
41 \$1,504,594 to \$1,278,905; and  
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43           WHEREAS, this funding cut is directly affecting the ability of the War Memorial  
44 Center to fulfill its mission and is likely to result in an operational deficit for 2012 now,  
45 therefore,

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47           BE IT RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby  
48 authorizes and directs the Director, Department of Administration, to process an  
49 appropriation transfer from Org. Unit 1945 – Appropriation for Contingencies to Org.  
50 Unit 1914 – War Memorial Center for \$150,000 to help mitigate the anticipated  
51 operating deficit for 2012 and to ensure that the War Memorial Center is able to  
52 continue to meet its mission to “Honor the Dead by Serving the Living” through the  
53 principles of arts and peace.