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(ITEM) A resolution by Supervisors Haas and Broderick, supporting the restoration of the Milwaukee Area Technical College District Board's composition to be consistent with all other Wisconsin Technical College System district boards, by recommending adoption of the following:

AN AMENDED RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, in 2012 the Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC) District Board of Directors (District Board) was singled out and targeted by state legislation; and

WHEREAS, in March 2012, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board) adopted File No. 12-307, stating their opposition to Senate Bill 275, which sought to change the membership structure of the District Board; and

WHEREAS, the Governor signed Senate Bill 275 into law in April 2012, which succeeded in disassembling the District Board and appointed the Milwaukee County Executive (County Executive) as Chairman of the District Board Appointment Committee, granting him authority to establish the District Board membership going forward; and

WHEREAS, the legislation was opposed by the Milwaukee County (the County) delegation of the State Legislature, which represents MATC and its students; and

WHEREAS, on December 1, 2015, the State Legislature introduced 2015 Assembly Bill 551, which changes the existing composition of the MATC District Board to the same composition of district boards used by all other technical colleges in Wisconsin, consisting of two employers, two employees, one school district administrator, one elected official, and three additional members; and

WHEREAS, 2015 Assembly Bill 551 adds the Mayor of the City of Milwaukee, or his or her designee, the President of the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee, or his or her designee, and the President of the Board of School Directors of the City of Milwaukee, or his or her designee, to the appointment committee of the MATC District Board, and constitutes a quorum of four members instead of the quorum of three members under current law; and

WHEREAS, Washington County represents only 2.2 percent of the MATC district's population but has 25 percent of the District Board's appointment power; and

WHEREAS, Ozaukee County represents only 8 percent of the MATC district's population, but has 25 percent of the District Board's appointment power; and

WHEREAS, the District Board Chairperson lives outside of the MATC district; and

47 WHEREAS, the changes in the District Board's composition and the selection
48 process have disenfranchised Milwaukee's African American citizens, who compose 35
49 percent of MATC's students; and

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51 WHEREAS, the changes have eliminated African American and Latino
52 representation on the District Board Appointment Committee; and

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54 WHEREAS, African American representation on the District Board has
55 plummeted from four to one since the new non-representative appointment committee
56 and board representation plan was adopted; and

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58 WHEREAS, changes in the definition of employer representative this year would
59 make it impossible for the only Latina on the District Board to run for re-election in her
60 position despite the fact that 20 percent of MATC's students are Latino; and

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62 WHEREAS, 65 percent of MATC's students reside in the City of Milwaukee and
63 have no vote in appointing the District Board; and

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65 WHEREAS, the current County Executive has consistently voted to appoint
66 candidates from Ozaukee County over qualified African Americans and other
67 candidates from the County; and

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69 WHEREAS, the Committee on Intergovernmental Relations, at its meeting of
70 January 29, 2016, recommended adoption of this amended resolution (vote 6-1); now,
71 therefore,

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73 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board)
74 and the Milwaukee Commission on Human and Civil Rights support restoring the
75 Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC) District Board of Directors' composition to
76 that of all other Wisconsin Technical College System district boards: two employees,
77 two employers, three at-large members, an elected official, and a school
78 superintendent; and

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80 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Board supports the changes offered in
81 2015 Assembly Bill 551, and urge the Wisconsin State Legislature to pass these
82 changes into law, and also endorses the reappointment of current members of color on
83 the MATC District Board who are up for reappointment in 2016; and

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85 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the appointment process of the MATC District
86 School Board Presidents be utilized as the recommended model for the college's
87 District Board Appointment Committee; and

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89 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Executive, (County
90 Executive) who is elected to represent the citizens of Milwaukee County (the County),
91 be instructed to appoint qualified representatives to the MATC District Board who live in
92 the County; and

93 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Executive is requested to use every
94 legal means available to fight the disenfranchisement of the African American and
95 Latino communities on the MATC District Board and in the board appointment process;
96 and

97
98 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Executive and the County Board shall
99 work with the Wisconsin State Legislature to pursue the restoration of democracy at
100 MATC by restoring the board composition consistent with all other Wisconsin Technical
101 Colleges and restore the board appointment process to the previous school board
102 president committee.

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