



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Chris Abele

MILWAUKEE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DATE: March 19, 2014

TO: The Honorable Milwaukee Board of Supervisors

FROM: Chris Abele, Milwaukee County Executive

RE: Veto of County Board File No. 14-74 on issue related to taxicab service

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I am vetoing County Board File No. 14-74 pursuant to the authority granted to me by Article IV, Section 23(a) of the Wisconsin Constitution and Section 59.17(6) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

The County Board adopted a resolution on February 6, 2013 again directing the County Executive to negotiate an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Milwaukee and the County "in order to transfer all operation and regulation of taxicab services to Milwaukee County."

I appreciate the intent of Supervisors Weishan and Stamper in attempting to improve the policy environment for the provision of taxicab service in Milwaukee County. I am also interested in intergovernmental cooperation and in exploring opportunities to advance shared goals more efficiently and effectively.

However, as I have previously stated, this resolution continues to conflict with state law. The clear, plain language of the state statutes vests the authority to regulate and license taxicabs with cities, villages and towns. It is important that we execute our county government consistent with the clear spirit and plain language of the statutes.

In case Supervisors do not believe me when I say this is precluded by statute, I have attached legal opinions from the City Attorney and the Wisconsin Legislative Council, both clearly say the County cannot assume this function. Furthermore, the City has not expressed interest in moving forward with such an agreement.

I ask that Supervisors to sustain this veto.