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5 **A RESOLUTION**  
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7 Urging the State of Wisconsin to provide funding to offset the county fiscal impact of  
8 federal changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), known as  
9 FoodShare in Wisconsin  
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12 WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Counties Association has cautioned that federal  
13 changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) could jeopardize  
14 access to essential food assistance and impose significant fiscal and administrative  
15 burdens on counties; and  
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17 WHEREAS, in 2024, 189,679 adults and 125,001 children in Milwaukee County  
18 qualified for nutrition-sustaining SNAP (FoodShare) benefits totaling \$519 million; and  
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20 WHEREAS, the federal budget reconciliation package enacted in July 2025  
21 introduced changes to the SNAP program that would reduce federal funding and  
22 significantly affect county-administered services; and  
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24 WHEREAS, these changes extend SNAP work requirements to individuals up to  
25 age 64, lower the child age-threshold for parental exemptions, and eliminate waivers for  
26 areas with high unemployment—thereby increasing referrals to the FoodShare  
27 Employment and Training (FSET) program and the workload for county human service  
28 departments; and  
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30 WHEREAS, the federal legislation requires states to contribute a minimum of 5%  
31 toward the cost of SNAP benefits if their error rate is 6% or higher, or face penalty  
32 funding of between 5% and 15% of total SNAP costs; and  
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34 WHEREAS, Wisconsin's current SNAP payment error rate is 4.47%, but without  
35 additional investment in eligibility and administrative systems, heightened workloads  
36 could push the state above the 6% threshold, triggering significant penalties; and  
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38 WHEREAS, if Wisconsin's error rate reaches 6% on or after October 1, 2027, the  
39 state's 5% cost share would be approximately \$69 million annually, with potential  
40 penalty payments that could further increase the state's financial burden—costs that  
41 may ultimately cascade down to counties; and

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WHEREAS, the SNAP administrative match rate for Income Maintenance (IM) activities has been reduced from the previous 50% federal / 50% state-local to 25% federal / 75% state-local, substantially reducing the federal revenue available to counties to administer SNAP; and

WHEREAS, the reduction in administrative funds could lead to a reduction in IM staff, which could result in an increased payment error rate; and

WHEREAS, county IM administrative costs are approximately \$123 million annually statewide, with SNAP-related workload accounting for about \$49 million of those costs; and

WHEREAS, the new administrative match rate results in an estimated \$17 million annual loss in SNAP administrative funding to counties; and

WHEREAS, these federal cuts result from shifting the benefit and administrative costs to states and counties (reducing resources available for local administration), tightening work requirements (increasing county workload), and penalizing minor payment errors (resulting in more cost to the states); and

WHEREAS, counties operate under state-imposed property tax levy limits, restricting their ability to offset such funding losses without additional state or federal relief; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Intergovernmental Relations, at its meeting of January 16, 2026, recommended adoption of File No. 26-226 (vote 5-0); now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors urges the State of Wisconsin to provide funding to offset the county fiscal impact caused by the enacted federal SNAP changes, and to work with counties to ensure adequate resources for administering FoodShare and related programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors strongly urges passage of the state budget correction bill, 2025 Assembly Bill 387/Senate Bill 390, to provide funding as requested by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Office of Government Affairs is requested to communicate the contents of this resolution to the Governor, members of the Wisconsin State Legislature with a constituency within Milwaukee County, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and the Wisconsin County Human Service Association.

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