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A resolution by Supervisors Lipscomb, Sr., Taylor, Johnson, Jr., Moore Omokunde, Schmitt, Haas, Cullen, and Wasserman, in support of State of Wisconsin (the State) legislative changes to require that State mandates be fully funded, by recommending adoption of the following:

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Wisconsin counties are mandated to administer services on behalf of the State of Wisconsin (the State); and

WHEREAS, some services mandated by the State include the operation of correctional facilities, highway maintenance, emergency management, and court operations; and

WHEREAS, the State often does not fully fund these mandated services, causing the local taxpayers to incur the remainder of the cost; and

WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County (the County) Office of the Sheriff, for example, is the only county sheriff mandated to provide its own expressway patrol services, receiving only partial funding from the State in the form of expressway policing aids, while the State Highway Patrol services the rest of the State expressways; and

WHEREAS, when counties have to budget for state mandated services, it redirects funding away from local services; and

WHEREAS, on February 3, 2005, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors adopted File No. 05-86, placing two questions on county-wide referendums relating to State versus County funding of State-mandated services within Combined Court Related Operations and the Department of Health and Human Services; and

WHEREAS, over 85 percent of voters supported state funding for State-mandated services, rather than the use of County property taxes; and

WHEREAS, 69 of the 72 counties throughout the State placed similar questions on their Spring 2005 ballots, receiving similar responses; and

WHEREAS, the County supports the State fully funding all State-mandated services; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance and Audit, at its meeting of June 13, 2019, recommended adoption of File No. 19-557 (vote 7-0); now, therefore,

45 BE IT RESOLVED, Milwaukee County supports the provision that Wisconsin
46 State Statutes be amended to require that state mandates on counties be fully funded;
47 and

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49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Office of Government Affairs staff are authorized
50 and directed to provide this resolution to the Wisconsin Counties Association for
51 consideration in their 2020 Legislative Platform.

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