

1 By Supervisors Nicholson, Czarnezki, Haas, Johnson, Jr., Martin, Rolland, Wasserman,
2 Sumner, Taylor, and Clancy

3 File No. 21-193

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6 **A RESOLUTION**

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8 supporting a new era of Federal government, celebrating the advancement of racial
9 equity through the historic election of Vice President Harris, and condemning the
10 insurrection at the United States Capitol which sought to block the certification of the
11 Electoral College votes
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14 WHEREAS, in 2019, Milwaukee County adopted File No. 19-397 and was one of
15 the first municipalities in the United States to declare racism a public health crisis; and
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17 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County is committed to the ongoing pursuit of becoming
18 the healthiest county in Wisconsin through the achievement of racial equity, which was
19 codified through the adoption of File No. 20-174; and
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21 WHEREAS, these principles guide and underpin the provision of services and
22 decisions made by Milwaukee County to foster success for all its residents; and
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24 WHEREAS, not only does Milwaukee County seek racial equity in its own
25 community, but throughout the Country as we address two pandemics: COVID-19 and
26 racism; and
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28 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County cannot achieve racial equity without support from
29 all levels of government, including the State of Wisconsin and in the Country's highest
30 office; and
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32 WHEREAS, the United States is taking steps to usher in a new era of
33 government, where racial equity is prioritized and policy decisions flow from a desire to
34 address the unique needs of all people; and
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36 WHEREAS, the election of Vice President Harris signaled groundbreaking
37 change on many levels as she became the first woman, and the first woman of color, to
38 enter the White House, the first Black Vice President, and the first South Asian Vice
39 President; and
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41 WHEREAS, representation in all levels of government is vital to the success of a
42 community and, with this historic election, women of color across the nation can see
43 themselves reflected in their government; and
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45 WHEREAS, the inauguration of President Biden and Vice President Harris on
46 January 20, 2021 was a peaceful transition of power, demonstrating the strength of
47 America’s democratic processes and the ability to overcome the violent insurrection on
48 the United States Capital two weeks previously; and
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50 WHEREAS, despite the peacefulness of inauguration day, the events of the
51 violent and chaotic insurrection will not soon be forgotten, a disgraceful and anti-
52 democratic coup attempt incited by those seeking to overturn a fair and free election,
53 resulting in several deaths, including the murder of a Capitol Police Officer; and
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55 WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors condemned the
56 unpatriotic actions of those who participated in the attack on the Capitol calling it “one of
57 the darkest hours of our great democracy”; and
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59 WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Executive described the events as “a
60 humiliating day for this country” and urged the “peaceful transfer of power”; and
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62 WHEREAS, as safety became a concern at government facilities across the
63 Country, the Milwaukee County Sheriff vowed to monitor and protect County facilities
64 and assured residents that the United States will “withstand this challenge to our
65 democracy”; and
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67 WHEREAS, although the events of January 6, 2021 were deadly and
68 disheartening, the inauguration of President Biden and Vice President Harris swiftly
69 demonstrated a remarkable change in the priorities of the Federal government through
70 the adoption of several targeted Executive Orders; and
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72 WHEREAS, on January 20, 2021, President Biden signed one of his first
73 Executive Orders mandating that the Federal government actively pursue the
74 implementation of policies that advance racial equity in order to “provide everyone with
75 the opportunity to reach their full potential”; and
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77 WHEREAS, President Biden signed other Orders contributing to the
78 advancement of racial equity, such as the repeal of President Trump’s travel ban on
79 Muslims, providing a pathway to citizenship for those with DACA status, including
80 noncitizens in the Census count, altering the arrest priorities of ICE, halting construction
81 of the border wall in Mexico, and several orders to ramp up the eradication of COVID-
82 19, which disproportionately affects people of color; and

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WHEREAS, Milwaukee County embraces a new administration which prioritizes the same guiding principle of racial equity and welcomes the opportunity to find support from the Federal government in pursuit of its goals; and

WHEREAS, Milwaukee County will continue to build on its previous commitment to achieve racial equity and looks forward to the support of the Federal government; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of January 28, 2021, recommended adoption of File No. 21-193 (vote 6-0); now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that Milwaukee County supports a new era in Federal government; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Milwaukee County celebrates the advancement of racial equity through the historic election of Kamala Harris, the first woman, and first woman of color, to serve as Vice President; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Milwaukee County condemns the violent insurrection on the United States Capitol on January 6, 2021 in an attempt to stop the certification of the results of the election.