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A resolution by Supervisor Lipscomb, Sr., authorizing the Director of Economic Development, Department of Administrative Services, to develop a Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program proposal, and make a recommendation regarding its administration, which may include joining the Wisconsin PACE Commission, issuing a Request for Proposals, or another alternative for administering a Milwaukee County PACE program, by recommending adoption of the following:

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) is a financing mechanism, which provides property owners with low-cost, long-term loans for energy efficient, renewable energy, and water conservation improvements to their property; and

WHEREAS, PACE financing is repaid as an assessment on the property’s regular tax bill, processed the same way as other public benefit assessments, such as sidewalks or sewers; and

WHEREAS, PACE helps property owners invest in energy efficient upgrades or water conservation projects by financing expensive, upfront costs; and

WHEREAS, PACE is a national initiative, but programs are established locally, as state legislation is required to authorize political subdivisions to charge an assessment on property for eligible projects; and

WHEREAS, following the passage of state legislation, a local government has the option to pass a local ordinance to institute an assessment and subsequently develop a PACE program; and

WHEREAS, Section 66.0627(8), Wisconsin State Statutes (State Statutes), authorizes a political subdivision to make a loan, arrange, participate in, or facilitate the financing of an energy improvement, a water efficiency improvement, or a renewable resource application to property within its jurisdiction through the imposition of a special charge against the property; and

WHEREAS, there are multiple ways to design and administer a PACE program; and

WHEREAS, local governments commonly partner with private lenders, which provide a loan to the property owner for the project and the loan is repaid over time via the special charge on the property’s tax bill; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin PACE Commission, made up of the Wisconsin Counties Association, the Wisconsin Green Tier Legacy Communities, the League of Wisconsin Municipalities, and the Wisconsin State Energy Office, provides local

47 governments the opportunity to participate as part of a collectively administered,
48 statewide PACE program; and

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50 WHEREAS, per Section 66.0627(8), State Statutes, to engage in PACE
51 financing Milwaukee County (the County) would need to adopt an ordinance authorizing
52 a special charge on real property, and would also need to determine an administrator to
53 operate the program; and

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55 WHEREAS, prior to adopting a County ordinance, it is necessary for the Director
56 of Economic Development, Department of Administrative Services, to develop a PACE
57 program proposal, and take necessary steps to identify an administrator to operate a
58 County PACE program; and

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60 WHEREAS, the Committee on Economic and Community Development, at its
61 meeting of April 10, 2017, recommended adoption of File No. 17-339 (vote 3-0); now,
62 therefore,

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64 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board)
65 authorizes the Director of Economic Development, Department of Administrative
66 Services (DAS), to develop a Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program
67 proposal; and

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69 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Director of Economic Development, DAS, is
70 requested to make a recommendation for the creation of a Milwaukee County (the
71 County) PACE program, subject to County Board approval, which may include joining
72 the Wisconsin PACE Commission, issuing a Request for Proposals, or another
73 alternative for administering a County PACE program.

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srb
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