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3 **A RESOLUTION**

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5 Expressing opposition to the proposed \$11.8 Million budget reduction in funding to
6 the Wisconsin Circuit Court System over the next two-year period.

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8 WHEREAS, the 2013-15 State Biennial Budget requires the Wisconsin Circuit Court
9 System to return a total of \$11.8 Million to the State General Fund over the next two-year
10 period, resulting in budget cuts affecting the Milwaukee County Circuit Court system; and

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12 WHEREAS, if the budget cuts are made, Milwaukee County Circuit Court will no
13 longer receive State funding at the previous level for contribution to its budget resulting in
14 budget shortfalls, this loss of funding will need to be recouped somewhere which will
15 automatically reduce the services provided to Milwaukee County residents; and

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17 WHEREAS, a reduction in services may mean a possible shrinkage of administrative
18 workers resulting in increased delays for everyday services, decreased ability to attract high
19 quality judicial candidates, delayed court cases, reduced online services, less public safety
20 measures, fewer programs that reduce recidivism; and

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22 WHEREAS, Wisconsin Supreme Court Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson
23 characterizes the cuts as "anti-revenue measures," as reported in The Capital Times on
24 May 31, 2013, due to a decrease in clerks available to collect court fees and a decrease in
25 overall collections; and

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27 WHEREAS, the proposed cutback in funding and resulting budget cuts will create an
28 immense financial challenge to Milwaukee County, potentially resulting in an increased tax
29 levy, while striving to meet the challenge of strict levy caps; now, therefore,

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31 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby states
32 Milwaukee County's opposition to the return of Wisconsin Judicial Branch Funding to the
33 State General Fund over the next two-year period; and

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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Clerk shall forward a copy
36 of this resolution to Milwaukee County's State Legislators, the Governor, the Director of
37 State Courts, and all other Wisconsin Counties.