

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

Date: June 24, 2026

To: Marcelia Nicholson-Bovell, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
Caroline Gómez-Tom, Chairwoman, Committee on Intergovernmental Relations

From: Katie Domina, Director, Office of Government Affairs

Subject: A report from the Office of Government Affairs regarding legislative updates

File Type: Informational Report

BACKGROUND

Pursuant to File No. 26-9, this report is submitted as an informational report regarding legislative updates. The purpose of this report is to provide an update related to local, state, and federal policy developments, as well as an overview of the current state legislative session.

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

The Office of Government Affairs (OGA) represents the interests of Milwaukee County before local, state, and federal governments. The structure of OGA is a function of state law. There are two staff positions in OGA, representing a partnership between the Board and the Executive: one to represent the County Executive and one to represent the County Board of Supervisors (Board). The Board's Government Affairs Liaison position is vacant. The Board is currently represented through a professional service agreement with Foley & Lardner. There is frequent communication and coordination between OGA and the Board's representative.

STATE UPDATES

State Medicaid Updates

[2025 Wisconsin Act 102](#) required the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) to seek approval from the federal Department of Health and Human Services to extend postpartum Medicaid coverage from 60 days to one year. For several years, Wisconsin was one of two states that had not extended postpartum Medicaid coverage to 12 months. According to DHS, this coverage is now live and currently available for Wisconsin residents.

[2025 Wisconsin Act 233](#) requires DHS to submit a request to the federal Department of Health and Human Services for a waiver to conduct a demonstration project to provide pre-release healthcare coverage to incarcerated individuals for up to 90 days before release if the individual is otherwise eligible for coverage under the Medicaid program. Specifically, case management services, medication-assisted treatment for all types of substance use disorders, and a 30-day supply of prescription medication would be covered under the Medicaid program. Recently, DHS submitted an [implementation plan](#) for developing the federal demonstration waiver to the Joint Finance Committee. DHS intends to submit the waiver request no later than January 1, 2027. Milwaukee County supported this legislation through [File No. 26-227](#).

Study Committees

Legislative study committees traditionally convene in even-numbered years and are temporary, bipartisan groups intended to examine more complex policy issues and develop legislation for the upcoming biennial session. The legislative study committees for the 2025-27 legislative session are:

Study Committee on District Attorney Funding Formula: The study committee is directed to conduct a recodification of subch. II, ch. 157, Stats., relating to cemeteries, and subchs. VII and IX, ch. 440, Stats., relating to crematory authorities and cemetery authorities, salespersons, and preneed sellers, to include

reorganizing the sections in a logical manner, renumbering and retitling sections, consolidating related provisions, modernizing language, resolving ambiguities in language, making other necessary organizational changes, and making minor substantive changes. The study committee may recommend mechanisms for providing guidance on these subchapters, written concisely and in language clearly understood by those required to comply with them, as well as legislation addressing the abandonment of cemeteries and the burial of human remains on noncemetery property.

Study Committee on Floodplain Restoration: The study committee is directed to conduct a recodification of subch. II, ch. 157, Stats., relating to cemeteries, and subchs. VII and IX, ch. 440, Stats., relating to crematory authorities and cemetery authorities, salespersons, and preneed sellers, to include reorganizing the sections in a logical manner, renumbering and retitling sections, consolidating related provisions, modernizing language, resolving ambiguities in language, making other necessary organizational changes, and making minor substantive changes. The study committee may recommend mechanisms for providing guidance on these subchapters, written concisely and in language clearly understood by those required to comply with them, as well as legislation addressing the abandonment of cemeteries and the burial of human remains on noncemetery property.

Study Committee on Cryptocurrency: The study committee is directed to conduct a recodification of subch. II, ch. 157, Stats., relating to cemeteries, and subchs. VII and IX, ch. 440, Stats., relating to crematory authorities and cemetery authorities, salespersons, and preneed sellers, to include reorganizing the sections in a logical manner, renumbering and retitling sections, consolidating related provisions, modernizing language, resolving ambiguities in language, making other necessary organizational changes, and making minor substantive changes. The study committee may recommend mechanisms for providing guidance on these subchapters, written concisely and in language clearly understood by those required to comply with them, as well as legislation addressing the abandonment of cemeteries and the burial of human remains on noncemetery property.

Study Committee on the Use of Artificial Intelligence in Health Care: The study committee is directed to conduct a recodification of subch. II, ch. 157, Stats., relating to cemeteries, and subchs. VII and IX, ch. 440, Stats., relating to crematory authorities and cemetery authorities, salespersons, and preneed sellers, to include reorganizing the sections in a logical manner, renumbering and retitling sections, consolidating related provisions, modernizing language, resolving ambiguities in language, making other necessary organizational changes, and making minor substantive changes. The study committee may recommend mechanisms for providing guidance on these subchapters, written concisely and in language clearly understood by those required to comply with them, as well as legislation addressing the abandonment of cemeteries and the burial of human remains on noncemetery property.

Study Committee on State Veterans' Benefits: The study committee is directed to conduct a recodification of subch. II, ch. 157, Stats., relating to cemeteries, and subchs. VII and IX, ch. 440, Stats., relating to crematory authorities and cemetery authorities, salespersons, and preneed sellers, to include reorganizing the sections in a logical manner, renumbering and retitling sections, consolidating related provisions, modernizing language, resolving ambiguities in language, making other necessary organizational changes, and making minor substantive changes. The study committee may recommend mechanisms for providing guidance on these subchapters, written concisely and in language clearly understood by those required to comply with them, as well as legislation addressing the abandonment of cemeteries and the burial of human remains on noncemetery property.

Study Committee on Cemeteries: The study committee is directed to conduct a recodification of subch. II, ch. 157, Stats., relating to cemeteries, and subchs. VII and IX, ch. 440, Stats., relating to crematory authorities and cemetery authorities, salespersons, and preneed sellers, to include reorganizing the sections in a logical manner, renumbering and retitling sections, consolidating related provisions, modernizing language, resolving ambiguities in language, making other necessary organizational changes, and making minor substantive changes. The study committee may recommend mechanisms for providing guidance on these subchapters, written concisely and in language clearly understood by those required to comply with them, as well as legislation addressing the abandonment of cemeteries and the burial of human remains on noncemetery property.

property.

Study Committee on State-Tribal Relations: The study committee is directed to conduct a recodification of subch. II, ch. 157, Stats., relating to cemeteries, and subchs. VII and IX, ch. 440, Stats., relating to crematory authorities and cemetery authorities, salespersons, and preneed sellers, to include reorganizing the sections in a logical manner, renumbering and retitling sections, consolidating related provisions, modernizing language, resolving ambiguities in language, making other necessary organizational changes, and making minor substantive changes. The study committee may recommend mechanisms for providing guidance on these subchapters, written concisely and in language clearly understood by those required to comply with them, as well as legislation addressing the abandonment of cemeteries and the burial of human remains on noncemetery property.

FEDERAL UPDATES

21st Century ROAD to Housing Act

At the end of June, Congress passed the 21st Century ROAD to Housing Act. Among other provisions, the bill:

- Authorizes the Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery program for three years, providing faster access to funding for housing recovery, infrastructure restoration and economic revitalization following disasters.
- Ties a portion of Community Development Block funding to local housing production for certain communities.
- Addresses large institutional investor activity in the housing market by precluding these entities from owning or exercising financial or fiduciary control over more than 350 single-family homes.
- Raises banks' public welfare investment cap (PWI) from 15 percent to 20 percent of their total capital.

Additional information from the National Association of Counties (NACo) can be found [HERE](#).

2 CFR Part 200

At the end of May, the federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) published a proposed rule that rewrites regulations related to federal grants. In general, the proposed rule implements several 2025 executive orders, expands authority for federal agencies to terminate certain awards, and places new requirements on subrecipients. NACo estimates more than 3,000 counties and \$1.1 trillion in federal grants would be governed by this rule annually. Several Milwaukee County departments are currently reviewing the potential impacts of the proposed rule. Comments on docket [OMB-2026-0034](#) are due July 13th. Additional information from NACo can be found [HERE](#).

2027 Appropriations Process

The annual appropriations process for the FFY27 is underway. The U.S. House and Senate Appropriation Committees are working their way through the 12 spending bills. The new federal fiscal year starts on October 1st. Additional information from NACo, including an appropriations tracker tool, can be found [HERE](#).

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

The 2026 Wisconsin Counties Association Annual Conference will be held September 20th-20nd. Additional information regarding registration can be found [HERE](#).

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