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(ITEM) From the Director, Department on Aging, requesting authorization to increase by \$31,820, from \$398,501 to \$430,321, the 2014 Contract with Legal Action of Wisconsin, Inc., to provide Benefit Specialist/Legal Services, by recommending adoption of the following:

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on December 19, 2013, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors authorized the Director, Department on Aging, to execute contracts to provide programs and services to older adults for the period January 1, through December 31, 2014 [File No. 13-896]; and

WHEREAS, one of the programs authorized through File 13-896 is the Benefit Specialist/Legal Services Program awarded to Legal Action of Wisconsin, Inc., and funded at \$398,501; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the Benefit Specialist/Legal Services Program is to assist older persons in working through the complex maze of state and federal benefit programs; and

WHEREAS, the program provides seniors, family, and caregivers with (1) health benefit information; (2) benefits counseling; (3) assistance in determining which health insurance plans, prescription drug programs, and other benefit programs might serve them best; and (4) how to apply for such benefits; and

WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Department on Aging, Legal Action of Wisconsin, Inc., and the Social Development Commission collaborated to receive a grant totaling \$81,053 from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services and funded by the Federal Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA); and

WHEREAS, the grant is to (1) provide outreach activities informing seniors about the range of Medicare and Medicaid related prescription drug programs, details of individual drug plans, funding alternatives for low income seniors, and targeting specific low income populations and (2) provide outreach activities aimed at preventing disease and promoting wellness; and

WHEREAS, participation by Legal Action of Wisconsin, Inc., is to provide application assistance and promote health benefits in partnership with local prevention and wellness programs, with special emphasis on Spanish-speaking elders and contacts with the Hmong and African-American communities; and

43 WHEREAS, the MIPPA grant includes \$31,820 to fund MIPPA services provided by
44 Legal Action of Wisconsin, Inc., and to allocate those funds through the Department on
45 Aging's Benefit Specialist/Legal Services Program; and

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47 WHEREAS, the Committee on Health and Human Needs, at its meeting of
48 January 29, 2014, recommended adoption of the Department's request (vote 7-0); and
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50 WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, Personnel, and Audit, at its meeting of
51 January 30, 2014, also recommended adoption of the Department's request (vote 9-0);
52 now, therefore,
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54 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Director, Department on Aging, is hereby authorized to
55 increase by \$31,820, from \$398,501 to \$430,321, the award to Legal Action of Wisconsin,
56 Inc., to provide Benefit Specialist/Legal Services in 2014.
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jmj
02/03/2014
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