

2  
3  
4 **A RESOLUTION**

5  
6 Condemning the rise of crime in Milwaukee County and supporting State of Wisconsin  
7 legislation which would curb the ability of repeat offenders to menace the public by  
8 reforming statutes relating to bail and when suspects are released from prison while  
9 awaiting legal proceedings

10  
11  
12 WHEREAS, anecdote and data show an increase of crime in Milwaukee County,  
13 alarming County citizens and neighbors:

- 14
- 15 • A perceivable increase in reckless driving, precipitating the creation of a City-
- 16 County Carjacking and Reckless Driving Task Force
- 17 • According to Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) unified crime reporting data,
- 18 Milwaukee County endured 198 homicides in 2020, the most since 1985 and
- 19 jumping from a recent high of 153 in 2016
- 20 • According to Milwaukee Police Department crime statistics, there were 194
- 21 homicides in the City of Milwaukee alone in 2021
- 22 • According to FBI unified crime reporting data, in 2020 there were 4,021
- 23 automobile thefts, an increase from a twenty-first century low in 2019
- 24 • According to Milwaukee Police Department crime statistics, in 2021 there were
- 25 10,479 automotive thefts in the City of Milwaukee alone

26  
27 ; and

28  
29 WHEREAS, according to the January 13, 2022 *Wall Street Journal* article titled,  
30 “Man Accused of Killing Six at Waukesha Christmas Parade Faces Additional Charges,”  
31 a perpetrator used a red sport utility vehicle to drive through a crowd of people marching  
32 in the City of Waukesha’s annual Christmas parade in November 2021, killing six and  
33 injuring more than 60; the man who has since been charged with 77 various counts of  
34 first degree intentional homicide, reckless endangerment, and hit and run resulting in  
35 death; and

36  
37 WHEREAS, according to a November 24, 2021 *Wall Street Journal* article titled,  
38 “The Waukesha Parade Suspect Was Out on Bail. Now the DA is Probing How Bail Is  
39 Set,” the alleged perpetrator of the Waukesha massacre has a long criminal record, and  
40 allegedly committed the Waukesha massacre after a domestic dispute with the mother  
41 of his child relating to November 5, 2021 charges of disorderly conduct and recklessly

42 endangering safety when he allegedly punched the mother and drove over her with his  
43 vehicle; with those charges he was out on a \$1,000 cash bail; and

44

45 WHEREAS, State Senator Julian Bradley of the City of Franklin is sponsoring  
46 legislation reforming Wisconsin statutes to keep the public safe from individuals who  
47 repeatedly commit crimes, including 2021 Wisconsin Senate Bill (SB) 856, SB 857, and  
48 SB 858; and

49

50 WHEREAS, SB 856 and its companion, 2021 Wisconsin Assembly Bill (AB) 838,  
51 would according to Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB) analysis:

52

53 “Under current law, a judge may release a person charged with a crime without  
54 bail, or may release the defendant only if he or she executes an unsecured  
55 appearance bond, or may require a defendant to execute a secured bond to be  
56 released. Under this bill, a judge may not release a defendant without bail or on  
57 an unsecured bond if the defendant has a previous conviction for a felony or a  
58 violent misdemeanor. Such a defendant may be released only if he or she  
59 executes a secured bond or deposits cash in lieu of a bond in an amount of at  
60 least \$10,000.”

61

62 ; and

63

64 WHEREAS, SB 857/AB 839, would according to LRB analysis:

65

66 “This bill requires the Department of Justice to collect from the Director of State  
67 Courts all of the following information for each crime charged: 1) the county in  
68 which charges were filed; 2) the name of the prosecuting attorney assigned to  
69 the case; 3) the name of the judge assigned to the case; 4) the criminal charge  
70 filed; 5) for each criminal charge filed, whether the judge released the defendant  
71 without bail, upon the execution of an appearance bond with sufficient solvent  
72 sureties, or upon the deposit of cash in lieu of sureties, or denied release under  
73 s. 969.035; 6) for each criminal charge for which a judge required the execution  
74 of an appearance bond with sufficient solvent sureties, the monetary amount of  
75 the bond; 7) for each criminal charge for which a judge required the deposit of  
76 cash in lieu of sureties, the monetary amount of cash required and 8) for each  
77 criminal charge filed, any other conditions of release imposed on the defendant.

78

79 “Under the bill, DOJ must publish an annual report using the data collected on its  
80 Internet site in an interactive format, and also submit a report on the data to the  
81 chief clerk of each house of the legislature for distribution to the appropriate  
82 standing committees.”

83

84 ; and

85

86 WHEREAS, SB 858/AB 840, would according to LRB analysis:

87

88 “Under current law, a judge may release a person charged with a crime without  
89 bail, or may release the defendant only if he or she executes an unsecured  
90 appearance bond, or may require a defendant to execute a secured bond to be  
91 released. Under this bill, a judge may not release a defendant without bail or on  
92 an unsecured bond if the defendant has a previous conviction for bail jumping.  
93 Such a defendant may be released only if he or she executes a secured bond or  
94 deposits cash in lieu of a bond in an amount of at least \$5,000.”

95

96 ; and

97

98 WHEREAS, the criminal justice system must balance rehabilitation of criminal  
99 offenders back into society while protecting the safety and property of the general  
100 public, and addressing the systemic causes of crime while holding individuals  
101 accountable for their mal-actions; and

102

103 WHEREAS, the Committee on Intergovernmental Relations, at its meeting of  
104 March 10, 2022, recommended **REJECTION** of File No. 22-334, due to a failed motion  
105 to recommend adoption (vote 1-3); now, therefore,

106

107 BE IT RESOLVED, Milwaukee County hereby unequivocally condemns the  
108 behavior of those who have been emboldened to violate public order, public safety, and  
109 life, limb, and property of Milwaukee County residents, thereby increasing the crime rate  
110 in Milwaukee County; and

111

112 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Milwaukee County hereby declares support for  
113 the following State of Wisconsin legislation:

114

- 115 • 2021 Senate Bill (SB) 856 and its companion, 2021 Assembly Bill (AB) 838
- 116 • SB 857/AB 839
- 117 • SB 858/AB 840

118

119 ; and

120

121 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Office of Government Affairs staff is authorized  
122 and requested to communicate the contents of this resolution to the Wisconsin

123 Governor and State policymakers, and support legislation that achieves the criteria  
124 outlined in this resolution.

125

126

127 03/10/22

128 s:\committees\2022\march\igr\resolutions\22-334 logsdon bail statutes.docx