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5 **A RESOLUTION**  
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7 Declaring a policy preference toward returning to in-house food service provision and  
8 commissary services for those housed in the House of Correction, County Jail/Criminal  
9 Justice Facility, and Detention Center located at the Vel R. Phillips Youth and Family  
10 Justice Center; allocating \$150,000 from Org. Unit 1940-1945 – Appropriation for  
11 Contingencies to Org. Unit 4311 House of Correction to retain a consultant to study how  
12 Milwaukee County may in-source correctional food provision and commissary services  
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14

15 WHEREAS, the House of Correction (HOC) Food Service Division was once  
16 composed of the Adult Correctional Center Kitchen and Bakery, the Franklin Lotter  
17 Building Kitchen, the Community Correctional Center Kitchen, and the Criminal Justice  
18 Facility Kitchen; these facilities combined provided food services for the House of  
19 Correction, County Jail/Criminal Justice Facility (CJF), the State of Wisconsin Violators  
20 of Probation or Parole (VOP) facility at N. Tenth and W. State Streets, and for certain  
21 special events on County property (2003 Adopted Budget), providing more than 4.9  
22 million meals around 2002 (File No. 03-259); and  
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24 WHEREAS, in File No. 03-259, Milwaukee County terminated its in-house food  
25 services and began contracting with a private entity to provide food services effective  
26 July 2003; and  
27

28 WHEREAS, a prison commissary is a store within the correctional facilities from  
29 which residents may purchase products such as hygiene items and snacks through an  
30 account funded through contributions from family members, friends, or earned through  
31 wages; and Milwaukee County also contracts with an outside vendor for commissary  
32 services within the HOC and CJF; and  
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34 WHEREAS, the privatization of HOC and CJF food services has allowed for a  
35 private corporation to profit off of incarcerated individuals, and privatization of various  
36 services often entails paying workers less than when the services were not privatized  
37 with the private corporation profiting from the difference; and  
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39 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County has previously explored returning to correctional  
40 healthcare self-operation in File Nos. 18-898, 19-497, 19-505, and 19-805; and

41 WHEREAS, the functions of food service and commissary at Milwaukee County  
42 correctional facilities are two distinct functions with separate contracts which presently  
43 are held by the same private entity (File Nos. 21-395 & 21-420); and that private  
44 corporation also holds County contracts for Milwaukee County Senior Centers and the  
45 Detention Center at the Vel R. Phillips Youth and Family Justice Center, where it  
46 respectively provided 707,748 meals for 6,893 individuals in 2020 (File Nos. 17-596, 20-  
47 893, & 21-423); and

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49 WHEREAS, insourcing food services will require the County to procure the  
50 necessary technology, storage space, and inventory management functionality to  
51 properly order, receive, store, and serve food; and

52

53 WHEREAS, insourcing food services would likely require additional full-time staff  
54 in the Department of Administrative Services, Procurement Division, to order foodstuffs  
55 while to feed individuals in our care three meals a day, every day of the week; and

56

57 WHEREAS, the CJF and HOC combined provided an average of 132,147 meals  
58 per month from October 2021 through March 2022 at a cost of \$1.2730 per meal; and

59

60 WHEREAS, the County may not presently have the expertise required for food  
61 service operation, would likely require additional staffing, and would require, but not be  
62 limited to, study of the following:

63

- 64 • Feasibility and cost-benefit analysis
- 65 • Health Code compliance
- 66 • Food safety and hygiene
- 67 • Dietary and nutrition expertise
- 68 • Menu development, including options to integrate donated food ingredients  
69 grown on Milwaukee County land currently leased to the Hunger Task Force
- 70 • Due diligence
- 71 • Equipment for preparing, serving, and storing food
- 72 • Human resources requirements
- 73 • Staff training
- 74 • Food production system design
- 75 • Master planning
- 76 • Possible facility and kitchen reconfiguration and renovation
- 77 • Waste management

78

79 ; and

80 WHEREAS, insourcing food services would require a County dietician to ensure  
81 sound nutrition and medically appropriate diets and an individual who understand  
82 religious meals to ensure the food is in accord with religious customs when necessary;  
83 and

84

85 WHEREAS, a return of County provision of food service at the HOC and CJF will  
86 stop a private corporation from profiting off of those incarcerated and may allow workers  
87 to benefit from adequate wages rather than shareholders profiting off the backs of  
88 poverty wages, while providing better quality meals to the persons in our care; and

89

90 WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of May 19, 2022, laid over  
91 File No. 22-577 to the Call of the Chairperson (vote 6-1); and

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93 WHEREAS, the Committee on Judiciary, Safety, and General Services, at its  
94 meeting of June 10, 2022, recommended adoption of File No. 22-577 (vote 4-1);  
95 now, therefore,

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97 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby declares  
98 a preference for providing in-house food and commissary services at the House of  
99 Correction and County Jail/Criminal Justice Facility; and

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101 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors  
102 hereby requests the Department of Administrative Services, Procurement Division, work  
103 with the Office of Special Projects, House of Correction, and Office of the Sheriff to work  
104 with a consultant to develop a request for proposals (RFP) similar to the RFP written for  
105 correctional healthcare in File No. 18-898, allowing for various policy options for the  
106 County Board to choose from; and

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108 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors  
109 further requests the aforementioned County entities and consultant study what the  
110 County may need, addressing in-house food services and commissary, in-house  
111 commissary only, in-house food services only, and no action, including but not limited  
112 to:

113

- 114 • Additional staff positions
- 115 • Technology
- 116 • Storage space
- 117 • Inventory management
- 118 • Feasibility and cost-benefit analysis
- 119 • Health Code compliance
- 120 • Food safety and hygiene

- 121 • Dietary and nutrition expertise
- 122 • Menu development, including options to integrate donated food ingredients
- 123 grown on Milwaukee County land currently leased to the Hunger Task Force
- 124 • Due diligence
- 125 • Equipment for preparing, serving, and storing food
- 126 • Human resources requirements
- 127 • Staff training
- 128 • Food production system design
- 129 • Master planning
- 130 • Possible facility and kitchen reconfiguration and renovation
- 131 • Waste management

132

133 ; and

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135 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors  
136 hereby authorizes and directs the Office of the Comptroller and the Department of  
137 Administrative Services to process an administrative transfer of \$150,000 from Org. Unit  
138 1940-1945 Appropriation for Contingencies to Org. Unit 4311 House of Correction,  
139 Account 60023 to release a request for proposals (RFP) to procure a consultant who  
140 can advise Milwaukee County on how it may return to providing food and commissary  
141 services to those housed in the House of Correction and County Jail/Criminal Justice  
142 Facility; and

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144 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors  
145 request a status report be provided for consideration no later than the July 2022  
146 meeting cycle outlining the steps taken to effectuate this resolution.

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06/10/22  
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