File No. 12-494

(ITEM) From the Comptroller, requesting authorization to transfer \$5 million of the available 2011 Surplus to the Debt Service Reserve, by recommending adoption of the following:

AN AMENDED RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the 2011 surplus for Milwaukee County is \$11,485,000; and

WHEREAS, State Statute and County Ordinance provide the County the ability to transfer surplus funds to a reserve for the redemption of County bonded obligation; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the Comptroller is recommending the transfer of \$5.0 million to the Reserve for Debt Services and;

WHEREAS, the Reserve for Debt Services has a current balance of \$4,266,000, of which \$1,738,000 is allocated to the 2012 budget, leaving a net available balance of \$2,528,000, for 2012 and future years; and

WHEREAS, the remaining 2011 surplus of \$6,485,000 would be available for the 2013 budget, which is an increase of \$6,477,000 over the 2012 budgeted amount; and

WHEREAS, funds contained in the Debt Service Reserve are earmarked to pay existing or future debt service costs; and

WHEREAS, given the unusually large surplus for 2011, it creates an opportunity to retire outstanding debt, especially funds borrowed at relatively high interest rates, in order to reduce future interest and principal payments; and

WHEREAS, Milwaukee County has two outstanding State Trust Fund Loans that were made to help finance housing projects for persons with mental illness, including:

State Trust Fund Loans				
Loan Amount	Date	Interest Rate	Maturity	Annual Payment
\$1 Million	9/24/07	5.25%	3/15/17	\$145,640
\$2 Million	12/08/09	4.50%	3/15/19	\$278,339
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; and

WHEREAS, the current cost to pay off both of these outstanding State Trust Fund Loans is approximately \$2,311,168, which would result in interest savings of \$365,659 if the loans were held to maturity; and

WHEREAS, by transferring an additional \$2,311,168 from the 2011 surplus to the Debt Service Reserve, for a total of \$7,311,168, Milwaukee County could repay the two State Trust Fund Loans early and save taxpayers \$365,659 in future interest costs, and relieve the 2013 Budget of \$423,979 in projected principal and interest payments; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Office of the Comptroller is authorized and directed to contribute \$7,311,168 to the Debt Service Reserve for the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2011; and

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Office of the Comptroller is authorized and directed to use \$2,311,168 in funds from the Debt Service Reserve to repay, in full, the two aforementioned State Trust Fund Loans in order to save an estimated \$365,659 in future interest costs and relieve future budgets of annual principal and interest payments had the loans been held to maturity.