

1 By Supervisors Lipscomb

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A RESOLUTION

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In support of the state enacting legislation that ensures that the cost of razing may be assessed and collected as a special charge

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WHEREAS, under current law, counties do not enact municipal health and building code ordinances; counties do not inspect, license, or condemn buildings; and counties do not play a role in the enforcement and compliance with these municipal ordinances; and

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WHEREAS, under current law, if the cost or razing of a dilapidated, dangerous, or unsanitary building is assessed as a special tax and the owner of the real estate does not pay the amount due, the municipality's costs to raze the building must be paid by the county as part of the August settlement of property taxes; and

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WHEREAS, under current law, counties are required to pay all taxes-regardless of whether the property owner pays; and

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WHEREAS, Milwaukee County has worked with municipalities in the County and has had a long-standing practice of reimbursing municipalities for special charges; there have been examples in other parts of the state where these costs have been assessed as a special tax and caused financial hardship for the County; and

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WHEREAS, if the cost for razing a property is assessed as a special charge, the County has greater latitude for reimbursing municipalities for demolition costs; now, THEREFORE,

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BE IT RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors supports Assembly Bill 415 and Senate Bill 328 which clarifies that the cost of razing may be assessed and collected as a special charge but may not be assessed and collected as a special tax.

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