

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

JOSEPH J. CZARNEZKI • COUNTY CLERK

MEMO

DATE: May 9, 2014

TO: The Honorable County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Joseph J. Czarnezki, County Clerk

SUBJECT: Vetoed File Returned

The County Executive has returned to my office the following file:

<u>File No. 14-349</u> – A resolution by Supervisor Cullen to abolish one vacant position of Administrative Secretary 2-Constituent Services Representative (title code 86560) in the Government Affairs Department.

This resolution was adopted by a vote of 15 ayes – 3 noes at your meeting of April 24, 2014.

The County Executive has vetoed this resolution and attached is a copy of his veto message wherein he states his objection.

This matter is now before your honorable body.

Joseph J. Czarnezki, County Clerk



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Milwaukee County

CHRIS ABELE · COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DATE:

May 9, 2014

TO:

The Honorable Milwaukee Board of Supervisors

FROM:

Chris Abele, Milwaukee County Executive

RE:

Veto of County Board File No. 14-349 abolishing the Constituent Services

Representative position.

I am vetoing County Board File No. 14-349 pursuant to the authority granted to me by Article IV, Section 23(a) of the Wisconsin Constitution and Section 59.17(6) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

The County Board adopted a resolution on April 24, 2014 abolishing the Constituent Services Representative position.

As you know, the recommended 2014 budget from the County Executive preserved the former "Constituent Services Representative" position in the County Board budget and reporting to the County Board. The proposed budget moved the Graphic Designer position to IMSD, which would have allowed graphic design services for the entire county, including the County Board. During the budget process, Chairwoman Dimitrijevic introduced Budget Amendment 1A033 which retained for the board alone the services of the Graphic Designer and moved the Constituent Services Representative to the Government Affairs Department.

Both the Board and my office have made constituent services priorities in our work. It is right to do so and that is precisely why the Government Affairs Office prepared the job description to meet the duties of this position in the spirit of the Chairwoman's budget amendment and also took the opportunity to envision a new, more proactive, way of doing constituent services that meets the needs of this changing and diverse county. We are hopeful that the selected candidate will be a leader for the county in developing and leading efforts towards new models and practices of citizen engagement with the many diverse ethnic and racial communities in our county.

Eliminating the only County position specifically tasked with constituent relations will make the timely and efficient responses and resolutions we all want for the citizens of the county more difficult and is, frankly, a poor message for the County to be sending to the people we serve.

We are currently in the middle of the hiring process and have received 342 applications; however, we have suspended moving forward on filling the position based on the Board's resolution.

We ask the Board to sustain this veto so we can ensure the County has the capacity to engage the citizens of our community at a level I know we all agree they deserve.