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(ITEM) From the County Board’s Legislative Liaison, Office of Government Affairs, requesting authorization of updated 2015-2017 Milwaukee County State Budget Priorities based on a review of the Executive Budget, by recommending adoption of the following:

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, prior to the introduction of Governor Scott Walker’s 2015-2017 Biennial Budget proposal on February 3, 2015, the Committee on Intergovernmental Relations adopted the County’s State Budget Priorities (File No. 15-130) and the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors adopted those Priorities shortly thereafter; and

WHEREAS, subsequent to the release of Governor Walker’s Biennial Budget proposal, now known as Senate Bill 21 and Assembly Bill 21, Milwaukee County department heads, Committee staff, and community stakeholders had the opportunity to review the proposal; and

WHEREAS, in addition, the non-partisan Legislative Fiscal Bureau released its summary analysis of the proposal on February 26, 2015; and

WHEREAS, these reviews have revealed the inclusion of additional items in the proposed Budget not previously known to the Committee on Intergovernmental Relations, or the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors, that affect Milwaukee County operations; and

WHEREAS, one such Budget item would significantly modify Family Care, the state’s community-based, long-term care program, in which more than 8,000 southeast Wisconsin residents currently participate, potentially causing disruption to participants and service providers; and

WHEREAS, in addition, the Governor proposes to restructure or eliminate numerous other programs affecting the delivery of long-term care services to seniors and persons with disabilities, including Aging and Disability Resource Centers, the Include, Respect, I Self-Direct (IRIS) program, and the Family Support program; and

WHEREAS, also included in the Governor’s proposed Budget is a drug testing requirement for court ordered participants in the Children First program, which could prevent participants from fulfilling their court mandated child support obligations; and

WHEREAS, in addition, programs that would invest in reducing domestic abuse and child sex trafficking, both serious and growing problems in Milwaukee County, were included in the Governor’s proposed Budget; and

46 WHEREAS, while it is possible that making Milwaukee County's emergency
47 detention procedures consistent with those of other counties may improve the outcomes
48 of individuals in the system, it is important that any changes made to the emergency
49 detention program be made with the purposes of addressing the needs of the affected
50 individuals and with adequate funding made available to do so; and
51

52 WHEREAS, the Governor's proposed Budget would eliminate funding for the
53 Community Sensitive Design program, which enables communities adjacent to large
54 transportation construction projects to make aesthetic improvements to their design;
55 and
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57 WHEREAS, dramatic changes were also made to circuit court funding, in which a
58 block grant was created with court reporters included in the new block grant program,
59 possibly resulting in reduced funding to circuit courts; and
60

61 WHEREAS, the Governor also proposed a new property tax assessment system
62 that would require counties to participate in property tax assessments in communities
63 within their boundaries, at significant time and expense to each county; now, therefore,
64

65 BE IT RESOLVED, Milwaukee County does hereby oppose:
66

- 67 • Any modifications to Family Care and Aging and Disability Resource
68 Centers that would negatively affect care for individual users as well as
69 community-based care providers.
- 70 • The drug testing requirement for court mandated Children First
71 participants.
- 72 • Any modifications to Milwaukee County's emergency detention policies
73 that would negatively impact individual outcomes and provide inadequate
74 funding.
- 75 • Reduced funding for circuit courts and court interpreters.
- 76 • Elimination of the Community Sensitive Design program.
- 77 • Overhauling the property tax assessment system without providing
78 counties adequate time or funding.

79
80 ; and
81

82 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Milwaukee County does hereby support
83 provisions in the State Budget that increase funding for domestic abuse and child sex-
84 trafficking; and
85

86 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board's Legislative
87 Liaison, Office of Government Affairs, is hereby directed to communicate and advocate
88 these positions to the Wisconsin Legislature and other stakeholder groups.
89

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91 ag
92 03/24/15