By Supervisor Ortiz-Velez File No. 18-926

**A RESOLUTION**

Authorizing and directing the Director of the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture to apply for licenses to grow and process industrial hemp through the State of Wisconsin’s Industrial Hemp Research Pilot Program

 WHEREAS, on September 19, 2018, the County Board adopted File No. 18-690 authorizing the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture to conduct a study on revenue-generating uses for the Mitchell Park greenhouses, including the potential for growing industrial hemp; and

WHEREAS, on November 30, 2017, the State of Wisconsin passed Act 100 and legalized the growing and processing of industrial hemp through the Industrial Hemp Pilot Research Program; and

 WHEREAS, separate licenses are necessary to both grow and process industrial hemp and do not expire; and

 WHEREAS, registration is required only in the years that a license-holder intends to grow or process hemp; and

 WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection is currently accepting license applications for the 2019 program until December 31, 2018; and

 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County can apply for and hold the licenses even if they do not intend on growing or processing hemp in 2019; and

 WHEREAS, applying for the licenses now will allow Milwaukee County to move forward with a plan to grow and process industrial hemp expeditiously upon receiving the results from the aforementioned study, without needing to wait for the next application period; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby directs the Director of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture to apply for a license to grow and a license to process industrial hemp through the State of Wisconsin’s Industrial Hemp Research Pilot Program, including the submittal of a research plan.