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A resolution by Supervisor Weishan, Jr., requesting the Department of Administrative Services Office of Performance, Strategy, and Budget and the Office of the Comptroller analyze Chapter 3 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances and provide guidance related to county supervisory district apportionment and the impact of 2013 Wisconsin Act 14 on the potential number of County Board districts, by recommending **REJECTION** of the following:

AN AMENDED RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board) currently consists of 18 supervisory districts, with each district serving approximately 53,000 constituents; and

WHEREAS, the County Board was, for many years, divided into 25 districts serving smaller amounts of constituents, allowing for more direct representation of their district, especially in communities of color; and

WHEREAS, the County Board shrunk to 19 districts in 2005, and 18 districts in 2012; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, Wisconsin Act 14 (Act 14) severely limited the County Board by reducing the County Board’s operating budget, and reducing the terms of office from four-years to two-years, among many changes to transfer power and authority from the County Board to the County Executive; and

WHEREAS, Act 14 instituted a tax levy cap for the County Board’s annual budget of no more than 0.4 percent of the total tax levy, which is not imposed on any other county board in the State of Wisconsin (the State); and

WHEREAS, Act 14 applies exclusively to the County, which is home to the largest portion of the State’s communities of color; and

WHEREAS, the County Board’s budget includes salaries for all 18 Supervisors, salaries and benefits for staff, office accounts for constituent communications, and funding for general office needs; and

39 WHEREAS, the County Board has restructured to fit within the confines of the tax
40 levy cap, including creating bigger districts and fewer representative seats, hiring less
41 support staff for district offices, and offering less constituent communications and
42 outreach; and

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44 WHEREAS, larger districts with fewer representatives can often lead to less
45 direct representation of citizens as representatives are responsive to a more diverse
46 group of people; and

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48 WHEREAS, Chapter 3 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances
49 (the Code) governs the apportionment of County Board districts; and

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51 WHEREAS, File No. 15-691 amended Chapter 3 of the Code to direct that any
52 new redistricting plan shall be developed by an independent citizen redistricting panel
53 (Independent Redistricting Committee or IRC) that redraws supervisory districts in the
54 best interest of the citizens of the County; and

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56 WHEREAS, the number of supervisory districts is determined by the County
57 Board per Chapter 3.01(3) of the Code, and redistricting as recommended by the IRC,
58 will occur after the certification of the 2020 Federal decennial population census; and

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60 WHEREAS, an increase in the number of supervisory districts to 27 will allow
61 greater representations of all communities in the County, including the densely
62 populated City of Milwaukee; and

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64 WHEREAS, analysis of Act 14 and its limitations on the ability of the County
65 Board to expand its number of districts may be helpful to the County Board and citizens
66 of the County; and

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68 WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of July 16, 2020,
69 recommended **REJECTION** of File No. 20-203 as amended, due to a failed motion to
70 recommend adoption as amended (vote 1-5); now therefore,

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72 BE IT RESOLVED, the Office of Performance, Strategy, and Budget, Department
73 of Administrative Services, in conjunction with the Office of the Comptroller, shall
74 analyze the practical implications of 2013 Wisconsin Act 14 (Act 14) on the number of
75 Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board) supervisory districts; and

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77 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the analysis shall provide what impact Act 14 will
78 have on the establishment of 27 supervisory districts beginning with the 2022 term; and

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80 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a report shall be provided back to the County
81 Board no later than the **July September** 2020 cycle for consideration prior to the 2020
82 redistricting.

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87 S:\Committees\2020\July\FINANCE\Resolutions\20-203 Weishan - Act 14 Supervisory Districts AMENDED.docx