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4 **A RESOLUTION**

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6 Calling upon Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers to reduce the risk of COVID-19 exposure
7 and spread by releasing inmates at high risk for disease complications, those
8 individuals held for crimeless revocation, those scheduled for release within six to nine
9 months, and those sentenced under the older “indeterminant sentencing” regime prior to
10 “truth-in-sentencing”
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13 WHEREAS, File No. 20-379 noted the personal and economic havoc the
14 Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) has wreaked; and according to the United
15 States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), has caused more than
16 110,000 deaths in the United States in half a year, far less than average annual
17 American influenza deaths, and COVID-19 is highly contagious, spreading easily from
18 person to person in close proximity via airborne droplets from breathing, coughing, and
19 sneezing; and
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21 WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB) May 2020 report
22 titled, “Emergency Release of Prisoners Due to COVID-19”, states the Office of the
23 Wisconsin Governor has Constitutional powers of clemency in Article V, Section 6 of the
24 Wisconsin Constitution, which allows the Governor to issue reprieves, commutations,
25 and pardons to those convicted of a crime; and
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27 WHEREAS, 1997 Wisconsin Act 283 eliminated the “indeterminant sentencing”
28 regime and replaced it with “truth-in-sentencing” for felony offenses occurring on or after
29 December 31, 1999; and
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31 WHEREAS, Wisconsin has no death penalty in law and ought not have one in
32 practice; and
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34 WHEREAS, the Committee on Intergovernmental Relations, at its meeting of
35 September 10, 2020, recommended adoption of File No. 20-554 (vote 5-0); now,
36 therefore,
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38 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby calls
39 upon Governor Tony Evers to parole or commute the sentences of old law
40 “indeterminant sentencing” inmates sentenced prior to December 31, 1999 who may

41 have served longer than intended sentences and release the individuals who meet the
42 following criteria:

- 43 1. Individuals at greatest risk of severe or fatal COVID-19 complications, including
44 the elderly, those who are immuno-compromised, and those with chronic health
45 conditions
- 46 2. Those held in the Division of Adult Institutions due to technical rule violations
47 (crimeless revocation) who have less than one year remaining in their revocation
48 sentence
- 49 3. Persons who are scheduled for release within six to nine months of this
50 resolution's passage

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52 ; and

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54 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
55 requests the County Clerk provide this resolution to Governor Tony Evers.

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58 09/10/20

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