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4 **A RESOLUTION/ORDINANCE**

5  
6 amending Chapter 1 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances to assign  
7 the Milwaukee County Clerk with the duties of referring resolutions submitted by  
8 members of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors  
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11 WHEREAS, Chapter 1 of the Milwaukee County General Ordinances (MCGO)  
12 outlines the rules of the County Board of Supervisors; and  
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14 WHEREAS, MCGO 1.09 specifies, among other things, how resolutions and  
15 ordinances are referred by the County Board Chairperson to standing committees and  
16 how such files are ultimately considered; and  
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18 WHEREAS, County Board Supervisor resolutions and ordinances should be  
19 presented to the appropriate standing committee and full County Board in a timely  
20 manner through a referral process free from implied bias; and  
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22 WHEREAS, to embrace the Milwaukee County goal of inclusion and non-bias,  
23 and to foster an open environment and full participation in the legislative process,  
24 Supervisor-sponsored resolutions should be promptly referred; and  
25

26 WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of June 17, 2021,  
27 recommended **REJECTION** of File No. 21-505 due to a failed motion to recommend  
28 adoption (vote 1-6); now, therefore,  
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30 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby amends  
31 Chapter 1 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances by adopting the  
32 following:

33 **AN ORDINANCE**

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35 The Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors does ordain as follows:

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37 **Section 1. Section 1.09 of the Milwaukee County Ordinances is amended as**  
38 **follows:**  
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40 **1.09. Resolutions and ordinances.**

41 (a) *Presentation and form.* Every resolution or ordinance presented to the county board  
42 shall be in writing, and shall have a title expressing the general subject of the  
43 resolution or ordinance, and be assigned a unique file number. Every ordinance  
44 presented to the county board, shall be approved as to legal form by the  
45 corporation counsel prior to being considered by the county board. Resolutions  
46 which direct that an action be taken shall specify by name and/or title the official(s)  
47 responsible for taking such action.

48 (b) *Referral to committees and withdrawal from committees.*

49 (1) All resolutions and ordinances other than those embodied in a committee  
50 report, as defined in section 1.14(a) of the Code, shall be submitted to the  
51 county board chairperson in accordance with any deadlines or procedure for  
52 submission established by the chairperson. The chairperson, **except for**  
53 **resolutions and ordinances sponsored by a member of the county board,**  
54 may refer the resolution or ordinance to the appropriate standing committee(s)  
55 for a report. **The county clerk shall promptly refer all resolutions and**  
56 **ordinances sponsored by a member of the county board to the**  
57 **appropriate standing committee(s) for a report.** The date upon which the  
58 chairperson **or county clerk** refers the resolution or ordinance shall be  
59 deemed as the official referral date to the committee(s). Said action by the  
60 chairperson **or county clerk** shall be deemed as authorization to the  
61 appropriate standing committee chairperson(s) to schedule the resolution or  
62 ordinance for review. If the chairperson does not refer the resolution or  
63 ordinance to the appropriate standing committee, that was submitted in  
64 compliance with the deadline and/or procedure established by the chairperson,  
65 that communication, report or request shall automatically be placed on the  
66 agenda of the county board at the next meeting as an item not yet referred.  
67 Any member of the county board may make a non-debatable motion to refer a  
68 file not yet referred by the chairperson to a standing committee by a majority  
69 vote of members present.

70 (2) Each member of the county board shall receive a copy of a resolution or  
71 ordinance submitted to the county board for adoption under suspension of the  
72 rules. If suspension of rules is granted, the question on the passage of the  
73 resolution or ordinance shall be put by the chairperson as a matter of course  
74 without awaiting a motion from the floor.

- 75 (3) Resolutions or ordinances referred to committees shall be reported at a  
76 succeeding meeting with a recommendation for adoption, or amendment and  
77 adoption, or indefinite postponement, or to place on file, or to reject.
- 78 (4) Any member of the county board may give notice that he/she will move to  
79 withdraw a matter from committee at the next succeeding meeting of the  
80 county board and such motion, when made, may be adopted by a majority vote  
81 of the members-elect. If notice is not served, a matter may be withdrawn from  
82 committee by a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of the members-elect.
- 83 (5) Except for those resolutions and ordinances which are introduced subsequent  
84 to January 1 of an election year, all resolutions and ordinances pending before  
85 a committee of the county board shall be considered to have been placed on  
86 file at the end of the term of office of the county board. A listing of all such  
87 resolutions and ordinances to be placed on file in this manner shall be  
88 distributed to all county board supervisors by the legislative services division in  
89 January of the final year of the term.
- 90 (c) *Form of amendatory ordinances.* Proposed amendments to the Code shall be  
91 presented in writing. Any such proposed ordinance shall be presented by one (1) of  
92 the following methods:
- 93 (1) The section, subsection or paragraph to be amended shall be printed in full, in  
94 which case the matter to be deleted shall be shown with a line drawn through  
95 the same. Matter to be inserted or added shall, be underscored and shall,  
96 when printed in the proceedings, appear in bold type; when such ordinances  
97 are officially published, the subject matter which was added shall be printed in  
98 bold type.
- 99 (2) Where the method involved in subsection (c)(1) would be too involved, the  
100 section may be repealed and recreated.
- 101 (d) *Repealer ordinances or resolutions.* All ordinances or resolutions, or sections,  
102 subsections or paragraphs thereof, which are intended to be superseded or  
103 repealed, shall be, so far as practicable, specifically referred to and expressly  
104 repealed.
- 105 (e) *Limitation of reintroduction of measures.* Whenever any resolution or ordinance  
106 shall have been introduced for the consideration of the county board, and failed of  
107 adoption, or whenever any resolution or ordinance shall have been placed on file,  
108 such resolution or ordinance (unless substantially changed) shall not be  
109 reintroduced again until a lapse of at least ninety (90) days from the date of its  
110 indefinite postponement, failure of adoption or having been placed on file.
- 111 (f) *Withdrawal of matters in possession of the county board.* Any member (but not a  
112 committee) introducing a resolution or ordinance may withdraw it or may modify it in  
113 writing without consent of the chairperson at any time prior to any action thereon or  
114 reference to a committee. Such member may not withdraw or modify an ordinance  
115 or resolution introduced by him/her if any action thereon, or reference to a  
116 committee, has occurred.
- 117 (g) *Citations.*

- 118 (1) A supervisor may sponsor a citation on behalf of the county board to a  
119 particular person, group, or organization or to commemorate a particular event  
120 or occasion as specified in the citation.
- 121 (2) Citations may be used in place of resolutions for commendations,  
122 congratulations, and condolences of persons, groups, or organizations or to  
123 give recognition to unusual and important events or occasions, except that the  
124 use of citations may not be abused. The chairperson of the board may more  
125 specifically interpret this subsection.
- 126 (3) If desired by the issuing supervisor, a citation on behalf of the board may be  
127 coauthored by one (1) or more other supervisors.
- 128 (4) A supervisor sponsoring a citation shall follow the procedure(s) outlined for  
129 citations by the chairperson's office.
- 130 (5) The chairperson shall have prepared a list of citations, with sponsor(s) names,  
131 for action at the next meeting of the board.
- 132 (6) Citations may not be used for procedural matters or in place of resolutions  
133 memorializing congress, but only when appropriate to express the feelings of  
134 the county board with reference to a person or event.

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**Section 2.** The provisions of this ordinance shall be effective after passage and publication.

06/17/2021  
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