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A report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, providing an update on \$20 million in additional State of Wisconsin Emergency Rental Assistance (WERA1) funding and requesting authorization for an appropriation transfer to recognize this revenue, by recommending adoption of the following:

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the 2021 Consolidated Appropriations Act (the Act), which was signed into Federal law on December 27, 2020, included \$900 billion for various Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) relief programs hereinafter referred to as “COVID-19 Relief Bill”; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 Relief Bill provides \$25 billion of emergency rental assistance funding nationwide; and

WHEREAS, Adopted File No. 21-477, approved by the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors in May 2021, authorized the receipt of \$12,666,258 in State of Wisconsin (the State) Emergency Rental Assistance 1 (WERA1) funding, and any future allocations from the State; and

WHEREAS, the State Department of Administration desires to commit an additional portion of its allocation received under the Act, for the purpose of providing rental and utility assistance to qualifying low-income residents of the State affected by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Federal guidance states that the Emergency Rental Assistance funding may be used for rent, rental arrears, utilities and home energy costs, and other expenses related to housing incurred, due to the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, in August 2021, the State issued an additional \$20 million in WERA1 funds to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) for a total award of \$32,666,258 for eligible activities; and

WHEREAS, Adopted File No. 21-477 authorizes DHHS to issue contracts for the operation of this program, and the department will continue to provide regular monthly updates on the number of people receiving assistance and the amount of rent assistance payments issued; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of September 17, 2021, recommended adoption of File No. 21-858 (vote 7-0); now, therefore,

44 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors authorizes the
45 Office of Performance, Strategy, and Budget, Department of Administrative Services,
46 working in conjunction with the Office of the Comptroller, to execute an appropriation
47 transfer to recognize \$20 million in Emergency Rental Assistance from the State of
48 Wisconsin.

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