

ENROLLED RESOLUTION 179-3

RESOLUTION ADDRESSING STATE FUNDING INEQUITIES IMPACTING
WAUKESHA COUNTY

WHEREAS, on October 15, 2024 the State of Wisconsin released its annual fiscal report recording that the General Fund has an undesignated balance of \$4.622 billion as of the end of the fiscal year 2024; and

WHEREAS, Waukesha County being the third largest county in the state by population with 411,538 residents has sent approximately \$1.5 billion in taxes to the state and in return, receives just \$60 million in state aid, ranking it second-to-last in per capita state funding among Wisconsin's 72 counties, and

WHEREAS, Waukesha County has demonstrated efficiency in government operations meeting residents service expectations with the lowest per capita spending of any county at \$637 which is 58% of the state average (\$1,107), and 25% of the State high (\$2,582); and

WHEREAS, Waukesha County ranks last of every city, county, village and town in per capita State Shared Revenue, and 2nd to last in total per capita state aid at \$148 which is 52% of the state average (\$285), and 14% of the state high (\$1,039); and

WHEREAS, County governments are an extension of the state, tasked with implementing and enforcing state laws and regulations; and

WHEREAS, in the upcoming 2025 Waukesha County Budget, approximately 44% or about \$51 million of the revenue collected from county property taxpayers will be allocated to cover the state's funding shortfall; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the State of Wisconsin to provide adequate funding for district attorney positions throughout the state and the Waukesha County District Attorney's office is understaffed of assistant district attorney positions. The most recent state report shows the office is short 10.6 prosecutors. Furthermore, the prosecutors are over-burdened with approximately 40% of their caseload coming from outside of Waukesha County; and

WHEREAS, the Waukesha County Jail is close to capacity with 50% of its population coming from outside of Waukesha County; and

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin has had multiple budgets in a row with multi-billion-dollar surpluses demonstrating either an over taxation of its populus or a failure to adequately use the money collected in taxes to benefit the citizens of the state; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Waukesha County wish to receive their fair portion of shared revenue and state aid rather than increasing their tax burden with a county sales tax.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED Waukesha County Board of Supervisors strongly believes that immediate collaboration with the State of Wisconsin is imperative. Such cooperation is essential to mitigate potential service cuts, particularly in public safety, and ensure the county can effectively fulfill its mandated responsibilities.

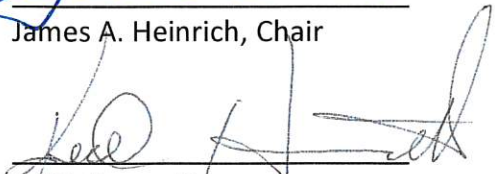
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED Waukesha County Board of Supervisors firmly believes that the State of Wisconsin should provide necessary support to alleviate the financial strain and increased burdens on the county's legal and correctional systems.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the clerk shall forward a copy of this resolution to Governor Tony Evers, all legislators representing Waukesha County, and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

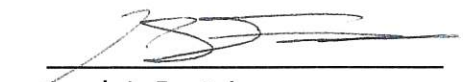
RESOLUTION ADDRESSING STATE FUNDING INEQUITIES IMPACTING WAUKESHA COUNTY

Presented by:
Executive Committee

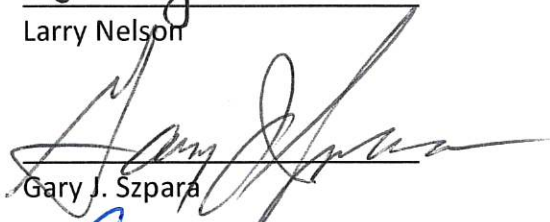

James A. Heinrich, Chair

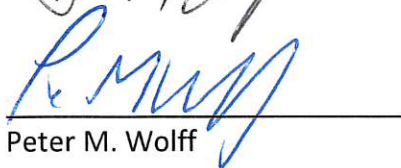

Keith Hammitt


Christine M. Howard



Jacob LaFontain


Larry Nelson


Gary J. Szpara


Peter M. Wolff

The foregoing legislation adopted by the County Board of Supervisors of Waukesha County, Wisconsin, was presented to the County Executive on:

Date: 12/3/24, 
Margaret Wartman, County Clerk

The foregoing legislation adopted by the County Board of Supervisors of Waukesha County, Wisconsin, is hereby:

Approved: X

Vetoed: _____

Date: 12/3/2024, 
Paul Farrow, County Executive

VOTE RESULTS >

23 YES

0 NO

0 ABSTAIN

2 ABSENT

Resolution 179-R-003

Resolution 179-R-003

 **Passed By Majority Vote**

D1 - Styza	AYE	D10 - Thieme	AYE	D19 - Enriquez	AYE
D2 - Euclide	AYE	D11 - Howard	ABSENT	D20 - Schellinger	AYE
D3 - Morris	AYE	D12 - Wolff	AYE	D21 - Gaughan	AYE
D4 - Batzko	AYE	D13 - Leisemann	AYE	D22 - Szpara	AYE
D5 - Grant	AYE	D14 - Mommaerts	AYE	D23 - Hammitt	M AYE
D6 - Walz	AYE	D15 - Kolb	AYE	D24 - Bangs	AYE
D7 - LaFontain	S AYE	D16 - Crowley	ABSENT	D25 - Johnson	AYE
D8 - Koremenos	AYE	D17 - Meier	AYE		
D9 - Heinrich	AYE	D18 - Nelson	AYE		