

2 **RESOLUTION: Urge the State of Wisconsin to Use Federal Medicaid Funding to Improve**
3 **Badger Care**

4
5 **TO THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

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7 **WHEREAS**, Governor Scott Walker has rejected billions of new Federal dollars for Medicaid, which would
8 have improved the State’s BadgerCare Program; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the Federal Affordable Care Act encourages innovation in states with the goal of a greater level
10 of health care coverage; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the decision to turn down Federal funding for the State of Wisconsin will not increase health
12 care coverage, but will actually make it harder for individuals to qualify for BadgerCare, with an estimated 88,000
13 adults who currently qualify for the program being dropped; and

14 **WHEREAS**, not only does the decision to reject Federal Medicaid funding shrink the number of Wisconsin
15 residents who have health care coverage, but it also increases the cost to the State for the Program; and

16 **WHEREAS**, if Medicaid was fully expanded, Wisconsin would have received \$4.4 billion in Federal support
17 over 6 years, however, according to the Legislative Fiscal Bureau, the State budget will require \$100 million more
18 this budget cycle by rejecting these Federal funds; and

19 **WHEREAS**, in 2014 thousands of Medicaid recipients will be placed in private health insurance exchanges
20 and will be required to pay premiums. The transition from Medicaid to private insurance and the premium cost could
21 result in the loss of health care due to confusion and inability to pay; and

22 **WHEREAS**, being underinsured and uninsured impacts county human services departments because it can
23 lead to untreated mental health or substance abuse and the lack of preventative health care that can lead to loss of
24 jobs, the inability to function, and loss of self-sufficiency; and

25 **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin Assembly Bill 53 and its companion Senate Bill 38 requires the State to take action to
26 qualify for enhanced Medicaid funding.

27 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby
28 urges the Wisconsin Legislature to support Assembly Bill 53 and Senate Bill 38 and accept enhanced Federal
29 Medicaid funding to improve the State’s BadgerCare Program.

30 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that, as an alternative,
31 Governor Walker and the Wisconsin Legislature authorize and enable counties to enhance Medicaid funding at the
32 county level, thereby ensuring that citizens in participating counties have access to affordable health coverage.

33 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it directs the Winnebago
34 County Clerk to send a copy of this Resolution to Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker, Wisconsin Department of Health
35 Services Secretary Kitty Rhoades, US Department of Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, the Wisconsin
36 Counties Association, and all senators and assembly members representing Winnebago County.

37 Respectfully submitted by:
38 **Larry Lautenschlager, District 19**
39 **Mike Norton, District 20**
40 **Harold Singstock, District 23**
41 **Jerry Finch, District 28**

42 Vote Required for Passage: **Majority of Those Present**

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Approved by the Winnebago County Executive this ____ day of _____, 2013.

Mark L Harris
Winnebago County Executive