

2 **RESOLUTION: Support of State Funding for Equitable Return of Utility Tax Collection to**
3 **Counties and Municipalities as Utility Aid**

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6 **TO THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

7 **WHEREAS**, shared revenue utility aid payments help counties and municipalities pay for services provided
8 to tax-exempt utility properties; and

9 **WHEREAS**, these payments-in-lieu of taxes are also viewed as partial compensation for the air pollution,
10 noise traffic congestion, property maintenance, emergency services and land use limitations caused by the presence
11 of utility property; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the state has typically retained about eighty percent of utility tax collections for use as General-
13 Purpose Revenue (GPR), instead of returning those dollars to counties and municipalities where the utilities are
14 located; and

15 **WHEREAS**, in 2019-2020, the state collected \$351.4 million in utility taxes, but returned only \$75.6 million to
16 local governments as utility aid; and

17 **WHEREAS**, payments generated through the current utility aid formula have largely been stagnant, both as
18 a percentage of tax collections and in the actual dollars distributed to counties and municipalities. Stagnant or
19 declining aid results in a burdensome shift in taxes to owners of the remaining taxable property.

20 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby
21 encourage the Governor's 2021-2023 budget to include a provision in said 2021-2023 budget plan to provide a fairer,
22 more equitable return of utility tax collections to counties and municipalities as utility aid with an inflationary increase
23 built into the utility aid formula.
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26 Respectfully submitted by:

27 **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

28 Committee Vote: **13-1**

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32 Vote Required for Passage: **Majority of those Presents**

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34 Approved by the Winnebago County Executive this ____ day of _____, 2021.

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36 _____
37 Mark L Harris
38 Winnebago County Executive
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