

Resolution 54 12-2020

RE: A Resolution in Support of State Funding For Equitable Return  
of Utility Tax Collections to Counties and Municipalities as Utility Aid

WHEREAS, shared revenue utility aid payments help counties and municipalities pay for services provided to tax-exempt utility property, and

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



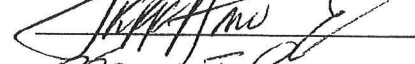
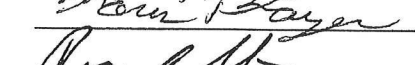

WHEREAS, the state has typically retained about eighty percent of utility tax collections for use as General Purpose Revenue (GPR), rather than return those dollars to counties and municipalities where the utilities are located, and

WHEREAS, in 2019-20, the state collected \$351.4 million in utility taxes, but only returned \$75.6 million to local governments as utility aid, and

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

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Jackson County Board of Supervisors hereby encourage the Governor's 2021-2023 budget to include a provision in your 2021-2023 budget plan to provide a fairer, more equitable return of utility tax collections to counties and municipalities as utility aid with an inflationary increase built into the utility aid formula.

Executive and Finance Committee

Signed at Jackson County, Wisconsin on this 21<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2020

