

Juneau County Board of Supervisors

Courthouse, 220 East State Street
Mauston, Wisconsin 53948



RESOLUTION No. 25-11

DATE: February 18, 2025

INTRODUCED BY: Executive Committee

SYNOPSIS: Resolution Urging Governor Evers and the Wisconsin Legislature to Support the County Circuit Courts

FISCAL NOTE: None.

WHEREAS, in 2023, the total cost to Wisconsin Counties for running all Circuit Courts was \$237 million. At the same time, the Court Support funding from the state to counties was \$28 million, 12 percent of the actual cost to run the local courts; and,

WHEREAS, the Circuit Court system is intended to be a state-county partnership; and

WHEREAS, the state's fiscal responsibilities include Judges, Court reporters, CCAP equipment, and the Circuit Court Cost Appropriation; and,

WHEREAS, the Counties are fiscally responsible for the majority of other functions of the court, including, but not limited to the following: bailiffs and court security officers, courthouse building maintenance, phones and utilities, Clerk of Court and Register in Probate, staff salaries and benefits, jury costs, psychological exams, guardians ad litem and court-appointed attorneys, expert witnesses, interpreters and translation fees, court commissioners, law libraries, corporation counsel, courtroom technology and audio visuals, copying machines and other non-CCAP office technology, office supplies, furniture, recruitment and training, financial collection efforts, mail fees, printing costs, exhibit and file storage, access to state data, insurance, service of court documents, judicial staff attorneys, and equipment repair; and,


WHEREAS, over the last 10 years, the increase in the county portion of cost to run the courts is nearly six times higher than the increase in Circuit Court Cost Appropriations provided to cover these costs, and counties now pay almost \$150,000,000 more than the state in unbalanced Circuit Court costs.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Juneau County Board of Supervisors shall and hereby does join the Wisconsin Clerks of Circuit Court Association (WCCCA) and the Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) in their efforts to increase the Circuit Court Cost Appropriation by \$70 million payable to Wisconsin Counties in the 2025/27 Wisconsin State Budget; and

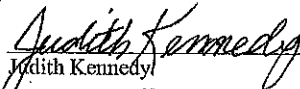
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be effective upon its passage and a copy shall be sent to Governor Evers and all Wisconsin State Legislators representing Juneau County.

INTRODUCED AND RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION ON FEBRUARY 18, 2025.

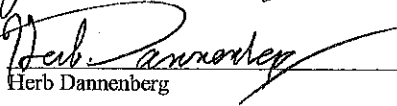
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:




Timothy Cottingham, Chairperson



Judith Kennedy



Herb Dannenberg

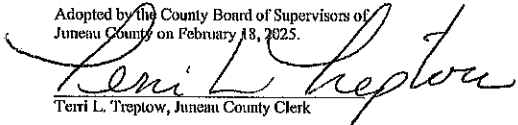


Roy Granger



Tom Winters

Adopted by the County Board of Supervisors of
Juneau County on February 18, 2025.



Terri L. Treptow, Juneau County Clerk