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3 **RESOLUTION No. 605 - 25**
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5 **REQUEST THAT THE STATE LEGISLATURE MODIFY LEVY LIMITS**
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7 **WHEREAS**, in an effort to control and reduce the annual increase in property tax rates, the State of
8 Wisconsin in 2006 imposed property tax levy limits on municipal and county governments; and

9 **WHEREAS**, in 2011 the State modified the levy limit requirement by allowing local governments an
10 annual increase in the property tax levy based upon a percentage of the value of net new construction;
11 and

12 **WHEREAS**, in Marinette County, the allowable increase to the tax levy is attributable to the annual
13 percentage increase in the value of net new construction which for Marinette County has averaged
14 1.14% per year over the last five years, and that amount in addition to all other revenue sources is
15 insufficient to cover even a modest 2.5% increase for staff not to mention all the other operating costs;
16 and

17 **WHEREAS**, the 2020 – 2024 increase in Midwest Urban Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) averages out
18 to a 5.7% annual increase, according to data compiled by the U.S Bureau of Labor Statistics; and

19 **WHEREAS**, along with all other Wisconsin counties, Marinette County continues to experience
20 annual operational cost increases, led primarily by higher fuel, material, insurance and labor costs as
21 indicated by the annual rate of increase in the CPI; and

22 **WHEREAS**, all sources of Marinette County revenues combined, including the annual allowable
23 increase in the property tax levy, have now proven to be insufficient to fund annual operational cost
24 increases; and

25 **WHEREAS**, over the past two years Marinette County has had to balance its annual budget by
26 eliminating the home Care program and not filling various vacant positions and to date the number of
27 positions not filled is 18. If this trend continues the County will need to not only cut non-mandated
28 services but also reduce the effort put towards mandated services; and

29 **WHEREAS**, the twenty five municipalities located within Marinette County are also experiencing
30 similar operational cost funding shortfalls.

31 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Marinette County Board of Supervisors that the
32 Wisconsin State Legislature amend the levy limits imposed upon Wisconsin municipal and county
33 governments by permitting a 3% annual tax levy increase or net new growth whichever is greater and,
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35 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the County Clerk provide a copy of this resolution to Governor
36 Tony Evers, to all the state legislators representing Marinette County, Joint Finance Committee
37 Members, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and all 72 counties.
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39 Hereby granted this 15th day of April 2025 by a majority of a quorum of the Marinette County Board of
40 Supervisors.
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John M. Guarisco, Chairperson


Bobbie Borkowski, County Clerk