



RESOLUTION # 12-4/11

TO: HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ITEM # 4-29

**BOARD ACTION**

Adopted:   
For: 03  
Against: —  
Abstain: —  
Abs/Excd: 12  
Vote Req: —  
Other Action: —

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ACTION**

Adopted:   
For: 4  
Against: —  
Abstain: —  
Abs/Excd: 3

**HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD ACTION**

Adopted:   
For: 8  
Against: —  
Abstain: —  
Abs/Excd: 1

**RE: OPPOSING THE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED STATE TAKEOVER AND PRIVATIZATION OF INCOME MAINTENANCE ADMINISTRATION NEGATIVELY IMPACTING THE ELDERLY, POOR, DISABLED AND HUNGRY FAMILIES**

**WHEREAS**, La Crosse and other Wisconsin counties have a long history of effectively administering the FoodShare, Medicaid, and BadgerCare income maintenance (IM) programs, with La Crosse County staff receiving numerous awards and recognition for the quality of their work and La Crosse County being a leader in piloting regional, county-delivered "hub-based" approaches to making IM administration more efficient and less costly; and,

**WHEREAS**, approximately 19,000 La Crosse County citizens (1 in every 6 residents), many who are elderly, disabled and / or poor, rely on timely and accurate IM eligibility determinations for resources to feed their families and for resources to access healthcare, with these individuals relying on face to face visits with County IM workers and co-located workers from other service areas to assist them in completing and processing their applications; and,

**WHEREAS**, the State of Wisconsin administers particular income maintenance benefits through a centralized Enrollment Services Center (ESC), which utilizes a combination of State and private staff, which largely eliminates face-to-face contact by more heavily relying on applications being submitted via computer and telephone, and which has performed so poorly that it is currently under a federal corrective action plan from the Federal Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) with regards to FoodShare administration; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Governor's 2011-13 Biennial Budget includes a State takeover of county IM administration, abruptly replacing the current county-delivered model with an expanded version of the failed public / private ERC model, which results in the loss of approximately 26 positions within La Crosse County and approximately \$143,000 annually in revenue from indirect cost claiming, which adds approximately 1,300 new mostly Madison-based outsourced positions through expansion of a contract with HP Enterprise Services without a bidding process, which includes a role for private workers in the IM administration process that is not federally allowable and which the federal FNS has said cannot go forward, and which ends the potential for bringing additional jobs and revenue into the County by moving forward with a "hub-based" regional approach to IM administration; and,

**WHEREAS**, An analysis by the Wisconsin Counties Association shows that, compared with the State ESC, counties process cases more timely, more accurately, and at less cost to taxpayers, and that the increased cost of administration through the ESC would be \$4.3 million.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors opposes the Governor's proposed abrupt and poorly planned changes to IM administration, and would oppose alternative proposals that would implement a redesign of IM administration without time for appropriate planning, analysis, input and pilot testing.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the County Clerk shall mail a copy of this resolution to Governor Scott Walker, State Senator Dan Kapanke, Representative Jennifer Shilling, the Representative for the 94<sup>th</sup> Assembly district and Department of Administration Secretary Michael Huebsch.

**RE: OPPOSING THE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED STATE TAKEOVER AND PRIVATIZATION OF INCOME MAINTENANCE ADMINISTRATION NEGATIVELY IMPACTING THE ELDERLY, POOR, DISABLED AND HUNGRY FAMILIES**

**FISCAL NOTE:** There are numerous negative economic impacts that could jeopardize access to Foodshare benefits of over \$1 million per month, Badger Care benefits of \$10 million per month, plus the loss of 26 positions and \$143,000/year in federal revenue.

Date: April 11, 2011  
[Signature]  
**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Date: 4/11/11  
[Signature]  
**HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD CHAIR**

[Signature]  
**RECORDING CLERK**

[Signature]  
**RECORDING CLERK**

	Reviewed Only	Recommended	Not Recommended
Co. Admin.	_____	<u>SO</u>	_____
Fin. Director	_____	<u>[Signature]</u>	_____
Corp. Counsel	<u>MAC</u>	_____	_____
Board Chair	<u>SD/ML</u>	_____	_____

Requested By: Steve O'Malley  
Date Requested: April 5, 2011  
Drafted By: Jason Witt

Adopted by the La Crosse County Board this 19 Day of April, 2011

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
COUNTY OF LA CROSSE

I, Ginny Dankmeyer, County Clerk of La Crosse County do hereby certify that this document is a true and correct copy of the original resolution required by law to be in my custody and which the County Board of Supervisors of La Crosse County adopted at a meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2011.

[Signature]  
Ginny Dankmeyer, La Crosse County Clerk