

RESOLUTION 2022-11

Requesting the State of Wisconsin to Revise the Current Real Estate Transfer Fee Revenue Sharing Formula

WHEREAS, the collection by counties of a real estate transfer fee was mandated by the State of Wisconsin in 1969, and included a requirement that counties remit 50% of all transfer fees collected to the State; and

WHEREAS, in 1981 the State arbitrarily changed the transfer fee formula to now require counties to remit to the State 80% of all transfer fees collected; and

WHEREAS, the County through the Register of Deeds office assumes the annual operating costs of recording all real estate transfers occurring in Jefferson County, including the collection of real estate transfer fees; and

WHEREAS, in 2021 Jefferson County collected \$1,772,852 in real estate transfer fees with the County's 20% retained share totaling \$354,570, and was required to remit 80% or \$1,418,282 to the State; and

WHEREAS, Jefferson County real estate transfer fee collections over the past five years totaled \$6,922,419 of which the County retained \$1,384,484; and over that same period \$5,537,935 was remitted to the State; and

WHEREAS, in 2021 the State of Wisconsin has built up a budget surplus of approximately \$2.5 billion dollars, while many Wisconsin counties continue to struggle financially due to the ever-increasing costs of providing county government services in an inflationary economy, coupled with the financial restrictions imposed by State mandated levy limits; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to financially assist all Wisconsin Counties, Jefferson County requests that the State of Wisconsin return the real estate transfer fee share formula to again allow Wisconsin Counties to retain 50% of all total real estate transfer fees collected, with 50% to be remitted to the State.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors in session this 19th day of April, 2022 that the State of Wisconsin is hereby requested to revise the real estate transfer fee share formula to again allow Wisconsin Counties to retain 50% of all real estate transfer fees collected, with 50% to be remitted to the State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution is sent to Governor Tony Evers, all members of the State Legislature representing Jefferson County, the Wisconsin Counties Association and all other Wisconsin Counties.

Fiscal Note: This resolution has no fiscal impact at this time.

Voice Vote – Passed

STATE OF WISCONSIN)
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COUNTY OF JEFFERSON)

I, Audrey McGraw, County Clerk of Jefferson County, Wisconsin, do hereby certify that the attached is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 2022-11, adopted at the April 19, 2022, Session of the County Board of Supervisors at the County Courthouse in the City of Jefferson.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL this 20th day of April 2022.



Audrey McGraw
Audrey McGraw
Jefferson County Clerk
Jefferson, Wisconsin