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RESOLUTION: Declaring Winnebago County, Wisconsin a First Amendment Sanctuary

TO THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

7 **WHEREAS**, the First Amendment of the United States Constitution states, "Congress shall make no law
8 respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of
9 the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances";
10 and

11 **WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin State Constitution, Article 1 Section 3 states, "Every person may freely speak, write
12 and publish his sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of that right, and no laws shall be passed to
13 restrain or abridge the liberty of speech or of the press"; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin State Constitution, Article 1 Section 4 states, "The right of the people to
15 peacefully assemble, to consult for the common good and to petition the government, or any department thereof,
16 shall never be abridged"; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, and all members of the Wisconsin State Legislature, each
18 having been elected to their respective offices by the citizens of the State of Wisconsin, have each been duly sworn by
19 the Oath of Office to uphold the United States Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Wisconsin; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors is elected to represent the people of the County and
21 have been duly sworn by their oath of office to uphold the United States Constitution and the Constitution of the State of
22 Wisconsin; and

23 **WHEREAS**, the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors wish to express its deep commitment to the
24 freedoms enumerated in the Bills of Rights; and to express opposition to any order or law that would
25 unconstitutionally restrict the rights of the citizens of Winnebago County; and

26 **WHEREAS**, the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors wish to express its intent to stand as a Sanctuary
27 County for the Bill of Rights and the First Amendment; and to oppose, within the limits of the Constitutions of the
28 United States and the State of Wisconsin, any efforts to unconstitutionally restrict such rights, and to use such legal
29 means at its disposal to protect the citizens of Winnebago County to freely exercise their religion; to peaceably
30 assemble; to freely engage in commerce; to free movement of persons; and any other individual liberty recognized
31 as belonging to the People; and

32 **WHEREAS**, the means within the power of the Winnebago County Supervisors includes the power to initiate
33 legal action, the power to petition for redress of grievances, the power to appropriate funding for the law enforcement of
34 Winnebago County, ~~and the power to direct the employees of Winnebago County not to enforce any unconstitutional law~~
35 ~~or purported order.~~

36 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby
37 declares Winnebago County, Wisconsin, as a First Amendment Sanctuary and expresses its intent to uphold the
38 First Amendment and other clearly established rights of the people of Winnebago County, Wisconsin.

39 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby expresses its
40 intent that no Winnebago County funds will be used to restrict the First Amendment and other clearly established
41 constitutional rights.

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Respectfully submitted by:
NATE GUSTAFSON, DISTRICT 28
CONLEY HANSON, DISTRICT 26

Vote Required for Passage: **Majority**

Approved by the Winnebago County Executive this ____ day of _____, 2022.

Jonathan D. Doemel
Winnebago County Executive

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