

1 248-62011

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3 **RESOLUTION: Request Sheriff to Read Declaration**  
4 **of Independence on Courthouse**  
5 **Steps on July 4, 2011**

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7 **TO THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

8  
9 **WHEREAS**, the Continental Congress, by a Declaration of Independence, dated July 4,  
10 1776, clearly declared the inhabitants of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island,  
11 Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina,  
12 South Carolina and Georgia, were no longer colonial subjects to be exploited arbitrarily by  
13 servants of the King and Parliament of Great Britain, but now were free citizens of their own  
14 territories, and that free citizens should constitute the governments for those territories; and

15  
16 **WHEREAS**, the Continental Congress provided that same day, by orders of their House,  
17 that their Declaration should be proclaimed aloud and published to the free citizens of the  
18 territories represented in their Congress; and

19  
20 **WHEREAS**, the notification of the Declaration to responsible citizens was then done by  
21 sheriffs, who proclaimed it at the courthouse steps, by clergymen, who read it from their pulpits,  
22 and by printers, who printed it in their gazettes; and

23  
24 **WHEREAS**, the Continental Congress thus initiated a process that has created the  
25 Constitutions and state governments of our Union including the Constitution and government of  
26 the State of Wisconsin.

27  
28 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors  
29 that it hereby requests Sheriff John Matz to read the Declaration of Independence from the steps  
30 of the Courthouse at 8:00 a.m. on the morning of July 4, 2011, as this was the custom in the early  
31 history of our country.

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33 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that we  
34 ask Sheriff Matz to read the document without further comment or speech. This event is intended  
35 for those present to hear the words of the Declaration as we begin to celebrate our Day of  
36 Independence.

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38  
39 Submitted by:

40  
41 **BILL WINGREN, DIST. #18**  
42 **DAVID ALBRECHT, DIST. #11**  
43 **COUNTY BOARD SUPERVISORS**

44  
45 Vote Requirement for Passage:  
46 **Majority of those present**

47  
48 Approved by Winnebago County Executive this \_\_\_\_\_ day of June, 2011.

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50 \_\_\_\_\_  
51 Mark L. Harris  
52 County Executive  
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