

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - 2020

**AUTHORIZING A CITIZEN'S ADVISORY REFERENDUM OR SEEK ASSISTANCE OF THE
WCA AND WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE IN SEEKING A CHANGE IN THE FEDERAL
AND/OR STATE LAW SO THAT PERSONS WHO ARE INCARCERATED, YET NOT
CONVICTED, DO NOT LOSE THEIR STATE AND FEDERAL BENEFITS**

Background: When persons are incarcerated in the Sauk County jail for a period of time, and cannot make bail, they lose many federal and state benefits even though they have not yet been convicted of a crime. This loss of benefits works to the financial detriment of Sauk County when the county is required to assume costs for these incarcerated yet unconvicted persons. This Advisory Referendum is proposed to seek the public's advice on this issue.

Fiscal Impact: ☒ None ☐ Budgeted Expenditure ☐ Not Budgeted

WHEREAS, Sauk County operates and maintains a County Jail where certain persons remain incarcerated prior to their conviction or acquittal; and,

WHEREAS, such incarcerated persons often lose such benefits as Social Security, Badger Care, Medicare or Medicaid and that loss of benefits imposing and substantial and ongoing cost to Sauk County and its citizens; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Sauk County Board of Supervisors, met in regular session, that either this matter should be placed on the ballot as a Citizen's Advisory Referendum and/or the assistance of the WCA and the Wisconsin Legislature should be sought in addressing this issue; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Sauk County Board of Supervisors, Who met in regular session, that the County should seek return of those federal funds which have been withheld; and

- 1) That Sauk County should contact the WCA and the Wisconsin Legislature to seek a change in the Federal or State Law so that person who are incarcerated, but not yet convicted do not lose their Federal and State benefits, and/or;
- 2) The Sauk County Board hereby orders the Sauk County Clerk to place a Citizen's Advisory Referendum on this issue the November 7, 2020 ballot;

For consideration by the Sauk County Board of Supervisors on March 17, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

EXECUTIVE & LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

PETER VEDRO , Chair

WILLIAM HAMBRECHT

WALLY CZUPRYNKO

DAVID RIEK

THOMAS KRIEGL

Fiscal Note: No fiscal impact.

MIS Note: No information systems impact.