RESOLUTION NO. 16

RESOLUTION URGING THE FULL FUNDING OF THE COST OF OPERATION OF THE COUNTIES' CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

WHEREAS, in the past, Wisconsin Counties have relied upon program reimbursements, incentives and revenues from fees charged to clients to offset the operational expenses incurred in the administration of the child support enforcement program; and

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin Department of Health and Social Services is in violation of the terms of the State-County child support contract by attempting to impose Department policy which restricts the medical support liability incentives which may be earned by child support enforcement agencies without citing applicable State and Federal regulations, State Administrative Rules or controlling court cases; and

WHEREAS, department policy also effectively restricts the fees and recovery costs which may be collected by County child support enforcement departments; and

WHEREAS, the increase in expenditures caused by increasing Federally mandated child support enforcement activities coupled with the decrease in revenues due to lower AFDC caseloads and collections has resulted in budget deficits in most Wisconsin Counties; and

WHEREAS, the major benefits of lower AFDC caseloads accrue to the State and Federal governments as these governmental entities fund the AFDC program; and

WHEREAS, the local property taxpayers who do not receive direct benefit from the program will now be required to fund these newly created budget deficits in the child support enforcement program; and

WHEREAS, the full cost of administering the child support enforcement program should be borne by the State and Federal governments as they receive the benefits of the program in the form of lower AFDC payments and caseloads;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Iowa County Board of Supervisors that the Board urges the State legislature and agencies to fully fund the cost of operation of the County child support enforcement agencies;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to Governor Thompson, all State legislators representing Iowa County and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

Recommended for Introduction this 17th day of October, 1991.

Respectfully,

Legislative & Civil Defense Committee

[Signatures]

Bernard Sersch, Committee Chairman

LaVerne McCarville

Robert Mellen

Daniel Bentzler

Donald Mullen