

RESOLUTION NO. 7-1003

TO THE HONORABLE IOWA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

WHEREAS, IOWA COUNTY GOVERNMENT normally spends 54% of total Iowa County expenditures on the payment of employees' wage and benefit packages:

WHEREAS, Iowa County's employees' wage and benefit expenses consume a significant portion of property tax revenue collected,

WHEREAS, the state's current binding arbitration laws that control collective bargaining in the public sector provide significant advantages to unions during negotiations and the contract arbitration process,

WHEREAS, these labor contracts have contributed to escalating wage and benefit packages expenses at Iowa County that have grown faster than local employers' wage and benefit packages, have outpaced inflation, and have contributed to rising local property taxes,

WHEREAS, 2003 Senate Bill 286 introduced by Senator Ron Brown and Representative Mark Gottlieb would:

- Require arbitrators to consider the impact of settlement proposals on the tax levy, "with an effort to avoiding settlements that cannot be funded without raising the local property tax."
- Eliminate the requirement governments must negotiate the impact of privatization.
- Require arbitrators to compare the pay of employees with the pay of other workers within their own community and not with employees in other communities.
- Require arbitrators to specify in writing the factors used making an award.
- Restrict the awarding of back pay to disputes where the union's offer is accepted.
- Require newly-hired employees (including teachers) to pay the first three percent of the employee portion of their pension cost, as a non-bargainable contribution. Employees in the retirement system at the time of the bill's enactment would not be affected.

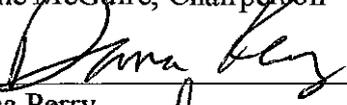
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Iowa County Salary & Personnel Committee do hereby recommend that the Iowa County Board of Supervisors issue a formal declaration of their support of Senate Bill 286 to the Wisconsin Counties Association, as well as to Senator Dale Schultz of the 17th Senatorial District and State Representative Stephen Freese of the 51st Assembly District.

Dated this 21st day of October 2003.

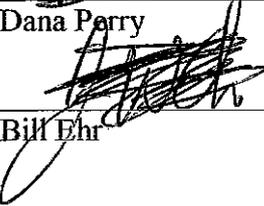
Respectfully submitted by the Iowa County Committee on Salary & Personnel:



Diane McGuire, Chairperson



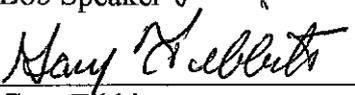
Dana Perry



Bill Ehr



Bob Speaker



Gary Tibbits