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SUB 2 to 2016 RES-572 AMENDING THE 2017 OPERATING BUDGET TO ENHANCE CITIZENSHIP ASSISTANCE SERVICES

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 5 Thousands of immigrants in Dane County are eligible for citizenship but lack the resources to
 6 navigate the process. Dane County has proposed a program to help direct and
- realizing the process. Date county has proposed a program to help direct and
 connect them to resources in the community that will enable them to succeed and give them a
 fair shot at realizing the American Dream.
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- 10 Since the election of President Trump, community organizations have received a significant
- 11 increase in requests for legal assistance to pursue citizenship and have reached out to the
- county for assistance. This resolution establishes an immigration assistance fund. It is hopedthat the initial funding in the
- 14 amount of \$200,000 from the County will be matched by additional funds from the community.
- 15 Funding is transferred from the General Fund, realizing that the end of year 2016 fund balance
- 16 for the Department of Human Services was significantly more than anticipated during 2017
- 17 budget deliberations.
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- 19 In support of enacting a community-driven initiative, the county has reached out to legal
- 20 services providers to immigrants and this resolution incorporates their ideas for an effective
- 21 approach to immigration assistance. A collaborative group of legal services and other
- 22 services providers to provide a broad and needed array of immigrant services will utilize funds,
- with up to \$50,000 allocated by the collaborative group to hire a project assistant or consultant
- to lead fundraising, meeting facilitation, and fund management. The legal services and other
- 25 services providers making up this collaborative partnership are:
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- 27 The Catholic Multicultural Center
- 28 Centro Hispano of Dane County
- 29 Community Immigration Law Center (CILC)
- 30 RISE Law Center
- 31 Jewish Social Services
- 32 Literacy Network
- 33 Madison Path to Citizenship, and
- 34 UW-Law School Immigration Justice Center
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- 36 While expedited action is essential as a result of federal actions, Dane County must develop a
- 37 long-term approach to support the immigrant community. Working together, the Department of
- Administration, the Department of Human Services, and the Tamara D. Grigsby Office for Equity
- 39 and Inclusion should complete research on best practices for the county's role in supporting
- 40 immigrants in our community and report to the County Executive, the Health and Human Needs
- 41 Committee, and the Personnel and Finance Committee by July 15, 2017 with proposals that can
- 42 be considered as part of the 2018 budget.
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- NOW THEREFORE BE It RESOLVED that \$200,000 be transferred from the General Fund to
 the Department of Human Services.
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- 47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following line item be added to the 2017 operating
- 48 budget: HSADMIN-NEW "Immigration Assistance Fund" \$200,000
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- 50 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proceeds of Immigration Assistance Fund be put out for
- 51 a Request for Proposals, to fund a not-for-profit organization that seeks to cultivate a

52 collaborative partnership of legal services and other services providers to provide a broad and 53 needed array of immigrant services.

54 55 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the responsibilities of the services providers will include development of criteria for fund allocation, to include: Asylum Applications, Violence Against 56 57 Women Act self-petitions, U Visas, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) applications, 58 Naturalization applications, T Visas, Immigrant Visa Petitions, Special Immigrant Juvenile Status 59 (SIJS) applications, Withholding of Removal or Convention Against Torture, Undocumented 60 Cancellation of Removal, Permanent Resident Cancellation of Removal, and other related education and legal services. Quarterly reports will be made to the Health and Human Needs 61 62 Committee. 63 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that up the collaborative partnership of legal services partners 64 may choose to allocate up to \$50,000 of the \$200,000 fund to hire a project assistant or 65 consultant to develop the disbursement structure, fundraise, and provide administrative support 66 to the project. 67 68 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tamara D. Grigsby Office of Equity and Inclusion shall 69 provide assistance to the collaborative partnership as needed. 70 71 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that, working together, the Department of Administration, 72 Department of Human Services and the Tamara D. Grigsby Office for Equity and Inclusion 73 should complete research on best practices for the county's role in supporting immigrants in our 74 community and report to the County Executive, the Health and Human Needs Committee, and the Personnel and Finance Committee by July 15, 2017 with proposals that can be considered 75 76 as part of the 2018 budget. 77 78 Explanation of the Substitute Amendment: 79 Due to the growing need for immigration services in Dane County and the shortage of funds for 80 front-line immigration services, an Immigration Assistance Fund will be created with \$200,000. Of that amount, \$50,000 may be allocated for staffing support for fund governance, 81 82 fund raising, and management by a collaborative partnership of immigration service providers. 83 In addition, the Sub to Res 572 also: 84 Transfers funds from the General Fund for the Immigration Assistance Fund, in 85 recognition of the Department of Human Services' return of funds in excess of \$200.000 86 to the General Fund at the end of 2016. 87 • Defines services for which the funds may be put out for a Request for Proposal based on 88 input from front-line immigration service providers. 89 Directs the Dane County Office of Equity and Inclusion to provide assistance to the 90 collaborative partnership.

- 91 Follows established Dane County procurement practices of maintaining a 92 threshold for an RFP of \$35,000.
- Maintains Dane County practice, which has not seen funds being granted to a 93 • foundation for future disbursement. 94