

1 SUB 1 AS AMENDED to 2018 RES-474
2 2019-2021 DANE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE AGENDA
3

4 **General Principle**
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6 The state shall foster equitable and inclusive opportunities for all state
7 residents by supporting and funding proactive, evidence-based programs
8 and policies that advance the elimination of racial and socio-economic
9 disparities and recognize the unique role counties play in administering state
10 programs by:

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- 12 1. Fairly sharing responsibility with the counties in determining the scope, design,
13 and cost of statewide programs;
 - 14 2. Providing adequate and predictable shares of funding for state services
15 delivered by the counties;
 - 16 3. Helping counties reduce the need to rely on property taxes; and
 - 17 4. Enhancing the ability of counties to more effectively manage county
18 government.

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20 In furthering these principles Dane County will assess policies via an analysis
21 that asks:

- 22 Who benefits?
23 Who is burdened?
24 Who does not have a voice at the table?
25 How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?

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27 **Surface and Ground Water Quality**

- 28 • **Water Quality:** Maintain level of DNR funds for water quality planning and
29 watershed projects. Support increased DNR financial assistance as an incentive
30 to reduce non-point source pollution. Seek a fair share of state funding for inland
31 waterways and lakes. Target state funds to where there is a high likelihood of
32 project success, where recipient units of government have a proven track record
33 of meeting state and local water resource goals. Support legislation to provide
34 additional funding and staffing for local water quality protection, improvement and
35 unfunded mandates.
- 36 • **Soil Erosion:** Support full implementation and funding of the state's water quality
37 and established runoff pollution performance standards for agriculture, non-
38 agriculture, and transportation facilities standards.
- 39 • **Stormwater Utility:** Amend the WI Stats. to allow counties to create and manage
40 stormwater utility. Support Local Control of Erosion and Storm Water
41 Management Standards. Oppose standardizing regulation of construction site
42 erosion, storm water management and prohibiting local governments from
43 enacting local ordinances that are stricter than statewide standards.
- 44 • **Comprehensive Approach to Control Lake Levels:** Request the DNR to adopt
45 a comprehensive approach to managing the levels of the lakes through
46 collaboration with affected parties, including dam operators, municipalities and
47 regulatory agencies toward improving natural hydrologic conditions and habitat.
48 To address recent flooding, support efforts to manage the Yahara Chain of
49 Lakes, improve the volume of water leaving the Yahara River system, reduce
50 stormwater runoff volumes through increased stormwater infiltration and better
51 management of stormwater on impervious surfaces.
- 52 • **Keep Asian Carp Out of Wisconsin Waterways:** Call on the WI Department of
53 Natural Resources and the federal government to increase their efforts to stop

- 54 the destructive advance of the Asian carp through Wisconsin.
55 • **Mining Reform:** Monitor mining reform legislation, support provisions that
56 restore local government role and suspend floodplain rules that would nullify
57 flood insurance and federal disaster assistance.
58 • **Water Management:** Support local governmental efforts to improve water
59 management through water conservation, a balanced water budget and
60 enhanced groundwater recharge.
61 • **High-Capacity Wells:** Support science-based regulation of high-capacity wells
62 that considers the individual and cumulative effects of high-capacity irrigation
63 wells on nearby waterbodies.
64 • **Public Trust Doctrine:** Oppose legislation that erodes the Public Trust Doctrine
65 and DNR's ability to regulate navigable waters and wetlands.

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67 **Natural Resources Conservation**

- 68 • **Stewardship Fund:** Support ongoing appropriations for the state Stewardship
69 Fund that are strong and annually adjusted for inflation. Eliminate Stewardship
70 Fund requirements for hunting and trapping.
71 • **DNR Staffing:** Support DNR staff levels that benefit Dane County water
72 programs, including regulatory programs, lake/fishery, runoff specialists,
73 conservation wardens, land conservation and parks programs.

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75 **Sustainable Agricultural Practices**

- 76 • **Funding for Soil & Water Resource Management Program:** Support
77 increased county conservation staff funding for implementation of the county's
78 land and water resource management plan. Increase available cost share
79 funding to support agricultural producers with implementation of conservation
80 practices to grow the state's agricultural economy as well as protect soil and
81 water resources.
82 • **Foreign Interests in Farmland:** Oppose legislation that removes limits on
83 foreign ownership of Wisconsin agricultural land.
84 • **Non-Therapeutic Use of Antibiotics in Livestock:** Support statewide ban on
85 non-therapeutic use of antibiotics in livestock production/agriculture.

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87 **Climate Change**

- 88 • **Climate Change:** Support legislative efforts and investments that address
89 climate change and help Dane County implement *Today's Opportunity for a*
90 *Better Tomorrow: 2020 Dane County Climate Action Plan*.
91 • **Renewable Energy Production:** Support legislation and statewide funding in
92 the form of grants and incentives to encourage the increased use and viability
93 of waste-to-energy and renewable energy sources such as wind, solar, and
94 biomass.
95 • **Green Jobs Economic Development:** Support statewide funding in the
96 form of grants or incentives, for counties to develop, create and attract green
97 job opportunities with green companies or industries.
98 • **Energy Efficiency:** Work to defend the statewide Focus on Energy Program and
99 actively support efforts to increase the funding and customer access to that
100 program. Support efforts to return control to local units of government for energy
101 related decision making such as establishing commercial building codes.
102 Restore school districts' energy efficiency exemption to the revenue limit.
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Environmental Health

- **Mercury Rules:** Support changes to the mercury rules to achieve a 90% reduction per DNR rule.
- **Perflourinated Compounds:** Support science-based statewide standards for PFAS, PFOA and PFOS as part of a holistic state plan to identify all contamination sources and includes funding for remediation for recipients of PFAS like local governments.
- **Lead Pollution:** Support statewide/Utility user funding to help local governments mitigate lead contamination in drinking water. Support building statewide awareness and educational efforts related to the use of lead shot and tackle for hunting and fishing.

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Access to High Quality Health Care

- **Dental Access:** Support policies and/or legislation that would ensure access to dental care for all residents including those on Medical Assistance.
- **Medicaid Expansion:** Support implementation of the Medicaid expansion under the federal Affordable Care Act (ACA). Accept available federal funds for BadgerCare to ensure that thousands of Wisconsin citizens have access to quality and affordable health coverage.
- **Key Funding Streams:** Support Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in key funding areas from the state including Youth Aids, Basic Community Aids, Children and Families Allocation, Aging and Disability Resource Centers, Income Maintenance, Children’s Community Options Program, and Children’s Long Term Support Program.

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Economic Assistance

- **Income Maintenance Programs:** Support funding levels and legislation that provide sufficient resources to administer non-cash benefit programs such as Food Stamps, Medical Assistance, Child Care and issue benefits to all eligible people. Oppose changes to the eligibility/enrollment process and services funded under Medicaid and Income Maintenance.
- **Childcare:** Support sufficient funding for childcare. Expand eligibility to include childcare support for low-income individuals pursuing higher education leading to employment.
- **Property Tax Exemptions Low Income Housing:** Clarify 70.11 Wis. Stats. to define “maintenance” as “repair and maintenance of property, capital replacements, insurance premiums, project management, debt retirement, project-related reserves, general administrative expenses, resident services, utilities, financing costs, preservation expenses and similar project-related expenses.”
- **Centralization of Economic Support Programs:** Oppose initiatives to remove income maintenance administration from counties and create a centralized income maintenance unit.
- **Medicaid Funding:** Support enabling counties to accept/administer Medicaid funding at the county level.
- **Drug Testing:** Oppose legislation that would enact drug testing as a requirement for public benefits. Also oppose drug testing of youth in our public schools.

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Services for Older Adults, the Developmentally/Physically Disabled and Mentally Ill

- **Birth to Three:** Support additional financial support from the state for this program. Support a modification of State Statutes to require health insurers to make third party payments to defray the cost of Birth to Three care for families

- 158 that have private health insurance policies.
- 159 • **Community Support Program (CSP):** Continue program. Have additional
- 160 state funding to help reduce county costs and serve those who can benefit from
- 161 the program.
- 162 • **RSVP Services:** Support increased funding for the RSVP Program
- 163 • **Seniorcare and BadgerCare:** Maintain Seniorcare and BadgerCare
- 164 continuing programs.
- 165 • **Handicap Access:** Support “visit ability” legislation to allow handicap access
- 166 devices in new homes or eliminate barriers in older homes.
- 167 • **Long Term Care Reform:** Plans developed by the state in the area of long
- 168 term care need to protect quality and availability of services to consumers and
- 169 maintain control by the county of programs or relieve the county of financial aid
- 170 and/or legal obligations for the programs and participants if the county is not
- 171 involved with these programs in the future. The required county contribution
- 172 towards LTC should be equitably negotiated. Support ongoing funding of
- 173 ADRCs. Amend Chapter 55 to delineate state and county responsibilities.
- 174 • **Employment Services for Older Adults:** Extend the use of state and county
- 175 funds to encourage the business community and technical colleges to create
- 176 and support retraining and placement of older adults entering/re-entering
- 177 employment, especially those lacking English proficiency.
- 178 • **Family Caregivers:** Provide financial support and tax credits to family
- 179 caregivers.
- 180 • **Dementia Patient Rights:** Oppose involuntary psychotropic drug
- 181 administration in Chapters 51 and 55.
- 182 • **Comprehensive Community Services (CCS):** Support continued full funding
- 183 of the state match.
- 184 • **InvestaCare (Long Term Care Investment Fund):** Support legislation to
- 185 establish a long term care investment savings program for individuals 18 years
- 186 and older to meet future long term care needs through financial contributions.
- 187 • **Family Care/IRIS:** Oppose changes that weaken the Family Care, IRIS, and
- 188 Partnership programs or privatize Aging & Disability Resource Centers
- 189 (ADRCs).
- 190 • **Mental Health and Drug Addiction Treatment:** Urge the state of Wisconsin
- 191 to require increased insurance coverage and MA reimbursement rates in
- 192 addition to adequate and sustainable statewide funding for mental health
- 193 services and drug addiction treatment programs.
- 194 • **Winnebago Mental Health Transfers:** Urge DHS to rescind its requirement
- 195 to transfer detained mental health patients to Winnebago Mental Health
- 196 Institute instead of Mendota.
- 197 • **Prevention Funding:** Support initiatives that provide additional funds for
- 198 primary prevention and enforcement programs related to elder abuse and
- 199 neglect.
- 200 • **IMD Exclusion:** Support the state in its efforts to change the “IMD Exclusion”
- 201 that ultimately requires counties to fund institutional stays for patients covered
- 202 by Medicaid.
- 203 • **Educational and Licensure Requirements:** Oppose the reduction of
- 204 educational and licensure requirements for health care professionals.

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206 **Services for Children, Youth, and Families**

- 207 • **Career Development for Youth:** Support funding to provide educational, work
- 208 skill development, transportation and mentoring services for youth or young
- 209 adults who are at risk of dropping out, have dropped out of high school or who
- 210 are unemployed post high school and lack the knowledge and skills necessary
- 211 to secure and maintain gainful employment.
- 212 • **Early Childhood Initiative:** Support legislation to continue funding for the Early
- 213 Childhood Initiative programs.

- 214 • **Apprenticeship/Internships:** Provide incentives for the business community
- 215 and technical college system to create and support apprenticeship/internship
- 216 opportunities to young adults. Expedite entry and graduation from the
- 217 programs to meet increasing demands to fill vacancies created by an aging
- 218 workforce.
- 219 • **Prevention Funding:** Support initiatives that provide additional funds for
- 220 primary prevention programs including delinquency and child abuse/neglect.
- 221 • **Relative Caregivers:** Support legislation/policies that provide additional State
- 222 support to relatives who take care of non-custodial children.
- 223 • **Kinship Care:** Support funding to meet needs of all that are eligible.
- 224 • **Wisconsin Medicaid Cost Reporting (WIMCR):** Eliminate WIMCR program
- 225 or fully reimburse counties for the revenues they would have received under the
- 226 Community Services Deficit Reduction Benefit (CSDRB) and Community
- 227 impacted by the creation of WIMCR.
- 228 • **Family Child Care:** Support legislation to extend the state rules governing
- 229 foster care background checks to family day care providers.
- 230 • **At-Risk Youth Report to School Board:** Develop a program for newly
- 231 released at-risk students to interact with/give progress reports to schoolboards.
- 232 • **Law Enforcement Role in Child Abuse & Neglect:** Oppose legislation that
- 233 usurps the authority of county Child Protective Services (CPS) by reporting all
- 234 child abuse and neglect cases to law enforcement in lieu of CPS, increases
- 235 penalties and changes the neglect definition to target low income and
- 236 marginalized communities.
- 237 • **Child Support:** Request the Legislature designate additional state monies to
- 238 the Wisconsin County Child Support Program to maintain the current high level
- 239 of service.

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241 **Youth Justice**

- 242 • **Youth Justice:** Support continued funding for early intervention and intensive
- 243 treatment programs. Support continued improvements to the youth justice and
- 244 juvenile corrections systems that use research-based restorative actions.
- 245 • **Youth Aids:** Support legislation to increase state funding for out-of-home care
- 246 costs for youth offenders now paid for by Dane County. Limit increases in state
- 247 rates for out of 270home placements for youth (including corrections, child
- 248 caring institutions and residential care facilities) to no more than the increase
- 249 in Youth Aids.
- 250 • **17 Year Olds:** Remove 17 year olds from the adult correctional system and
- 251 return them to Juvenile Courts and Juvenile Corrections.
- 252 • **Youth Programs:** Support continuation and expansions of programs focusing
- 253 on prevention of delinquency, alcohol and other drug use, child abuse and
- 254 neglect and domestic violence. Support increased funding and support for
- 255 youth after school programs, especially at the middle school level.
- 256 • **Youth Courts:** Support and fund Youth Courts in Wisconsin High Schools.
- 257 • **Group Homes:** Support efforts to reassess the maximum daily rate that group
- 258 homes receive.

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260 **Public Health Services**

- 261 • **Response to Local Public Health Emergencies:** Support legislation that
- 262 recognizes the critical role of local Public Health Departments in responding to
- 263 public health emergencies and provides adequate funding to respond to all
- 264 threats to public health.
- 265 • **Public Health Prevention:** Support initiatives that maintain effective public
- 266 health prevention services, health promotion efforts, health and racial equity,
- 267 and conditions that lead to optimal health outcomes.

- 268 • **Medical Marijuana:** Support legislation allowing residents with debilitating
- 269 medical conditions to acquire and possess marijuana for medical purposes if
- 270 supported by their physician.
- 271 • **Women’s Health Care:** Repeal all state laws that prohibit women from having
- 272 access to safe and legal abortions, that don’t protect women’s health and don’t
- 273 ensure a woman’s dignity, equality and autonomy.
- 274 • **Support Wisconsin Well Woman Program:** The Wisconsin Well Women
- 275 Program pays for preventive health screening services (Mammograms, Pap
- 276 Smears.....) for women with little or no health insurance coverage. Support
- 277 maintaining the program and oppose any cuts or elimination.
- 278 • **Dangerous Animals and Vicious Dog Ordinance:** Amend state law to allow
- 279 counties to enact stricter ordinances to regulate dangerous animals and vicious
- 280 dogs having countywide applicability.
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283 **Housing**

- 284 • **Homeless Services:** Provide additional State funding for services to assist
- 285 individuals, unaccompanied youth and families who are homeless.
- 286 • **Manufactured Housing:** Support legislation to amend state statutes to require
- 287 adequate notice to residents when mobile home parks are closing, require
- 288 storm cellars/secure areas in manufactured housing communities, encourage
- 289 WHEDA to provide funding/financing for the purchase of housing on leased
- 290 land, remove any barriers to long term leases, allow the purchase of
- 291 communities by residents and the development of co-operative housing for
- 292 manufactured housing communities.
- 293 • **Restrictions on Local Fair Housing Ordinances:** Oppose legislation that
- 294 impinges on the rights of tenants by allowing landlords to discriminate based
- 295 on a tenant’s income, occupation, rental history, credit information,
- 296 arrest/conviction history and Social Security number.
- 297 • **Landlord Regulation:** Repeal 2011 WI Act 108, which prohibits local
- 298 government ordinances that place limits or requirements on landlords (Fair
- 299 Housing Ordinance). Repeal 2011 WI Act 143, which prohibits a local
- 300 government from imposing a moratorium on eviction actions and
- 301 amends/creates new provisions that benefit landlords including but not limited
- 302 to allowing: landlord discretion in disposing/storing of medical/personal items;
- 303 landlords to withhold a tenant’s security deposit or portion of for damages,
- 304 unpaid rent/utility bills; and severability of rental agreements. Repeal 2011-
- 305 2012 budget bill provision which deletes landlord foreclosure notice. Repeal
- 306 2013 WI Act 76 (Prohibit Local Landlord Ordinances).
- 307 • **Tenants’ Rights:** Oppose legislation that prohibits local governments
- 308 from enacting/enforcing ordinances that regulate landlord/tenant relations
- 309 which enhance fairness in landlord/tenant relations, foster responsible
- 310 property ownership and protect the safety & stability of neighborhoods.

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312 **Veterans Services**

- 313 • **Armed Forces:** Support the Dane County soldiers who are presently serving
- 314 and veterans who have served by utilizing precious resources to provide the
- 315 supportive services they need.
- 316 • **VFW Halls:** Support a property tax exemption for chartered veterans’
- 317 organizations.
- 318 • **Property Tax Credit:** Drop the disability rating from 100% to 30% or greater.
- 319 • **Trust Fund:** Support an increase from state GPR to help stabilize the Trust
- 320 Fund so veterans will no longer pay for their own benefits and programs. The
- 321 Trust Fund is financed through veteran programs such as personal and home

- 322 loans.
- 323 • **Wisconsin GI Bill:** Fully fund the Wisconsin GI Bill without any limitations on
- 324 eligibility.
- 325 • **Ending Veteran Homelessness:** Support ending veteran homelessness by
- 326 maximizing state and federal resources and streamlining local housing
- 327 processes.
- 328 • **Mass Transit for Disabled Veterans:** Support fully funding bus passes and
- 329 other mass transit costs for all service-connected disabled veterans in all
- 330 Wisconsin locations and transit programs.
- 331 • **County Veterans Offices:** Oppose legislation that cuts/restructures CVSO
- 332 funding, reduces veteran services or weakens the offices by regionalization
- 333 • **Veterans Administration:** Support and recognize the significance of the
- 334 William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Administration Hospital and area
- 335 clinics in the lives of veterans and in the Dane County community and
- 336 opposes the privatization of services that the Veterans Administration
- 337 provides to millions of veterans nationally and thousands of Dane County
- 338 residents jeopardizing their care.

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340 **County Personnel, Finance, and Governance**

- 341 • **State Mandates:** Oppose any legislation or rule that requires counties to provide
- 342 a service or administer a program without adequate and ongoing funding.
- 343 Support creation of a Joint Survey Committee on Local Mandates. Support
- 344 legislation to allow waivers from state mandates. Support requiring the state to
- 345 perform a biennial review of all mandated programs to determine continued need
- 346 for the programs and annually review all mandated programs funded at 50% or
- 347 less.
- 348 • **Fees/Licenses:** Support state-set fees collected by counties to fairly cover
- 349 administrative costs.
- 350 • **Libraries:** Enforce compliance with WI Stats. 43.24(6) which require state
- 351 funding for public library systems at 13% of local library expenditures.
- 352 • **Room Tax:** Amend the room tax statutes to include counties.
- 353 • **Alliant Energy Center:** Support state funding for capital projects on the Alliant
- 354 Energy Center campus and support authorizing the creation of a taxing authority,
- 355 known as the Alliant Energy Center District, to be used to repay bonds for the
- 356 construction, maintenance, and operations of campus facilities.
- 357 • **Property Tax Freeze:** Oppose any efforts to limit or prohibit local governments
- 358 from increasing their expenditures or revenues.
- 359 • **Buy Local:** Provide and maintain state funding to create incentives for
- 360 businesses and all levels of government to buy local produce and products.
- 361 Oppose the practice of contracting State of Wisconsin government functions or
- 362 services to out-of-state companies/operations.
- 363 • **Reverse Marriage Ban:** Support a constitutional amendment to delete the
- 364 marriage ban amendment adopted in the Fall 2006 General Election.
- 365 • **Domestic Partnership Benefits:** Support restoring local governments' ability to
- 366 provide domestic partner benefits.
- 367 • **State Contracts:** Require the state to award contracts to vendors that extend
- 368 spousal benefits to include employees in domestic partner relationships.
- 369 • **Grant Program Continuity:** Require that when the state awards contracts or
- 370 otherwise funds a project, the state should require sustainability as one criterion
- 371 in the decision making or contract selection process.
- 372 • **Restore Impact Fee Authority:** Restore counties to the governmental entities
- 373 that are authorized to levy impact fees.
- 374 • **Fair and Equitable Taxation:** Support fair and equitable taxation without
- 375 harming county revenue.
- 376 • **Local Government Control:** Oppose any legislation that limits or deletes local

- 377 government control including opposition to levy limits and support for county
378 home rule authority.
- 379 • **Highway Workers Safety:** Earmark a portion of every state
380 construction/maintenance contract to fund increased local law enforcement in
381 construction/maintenance zones. Support innovative approaches to improve
382 work zone safety.
 - 383 • **Prevailing Wage:** Restore the prevailing wage requirement for public works and
384 other projects. The prevailing wage guarantees fair bids, quality work and
385 middle-class wages for skilled workers in Dane County.
 - 386 • **Fair Motorboat Gas Tax Allocation:** Support legislation to fairly allocate
387 motorboat fuel tax through a more equitable distribution formula.
 - 388 • **Comprehensive School Funding Reform:** Support changes in the school aid
389 formula to align revenues with educational costs. Distribute resources in
390 accordance with the diverse needs of students and districts to ensure every
391 student receives a quality education. Support moving school funding away from
392 reliance on property taxes.
 - 393 • **Redistricting:** Oppose changes to the redistricting process that allow the
394 Wisconsin Legislature to develop a map of Congressional, Senatorial and
395 Assembly districts prior to local government input regarding ward boundaries and
396 support the creation of an independent non-partisan process for the preparation
397 of legislative and congressional district lines.
 - 398 • **Oppose State-Imposed County Board Restructuring:** Oppose legislation that
399 impedes a County Board from governing, budgeting and hiring staff.
 - 400 • **Collective Bargaining:** Support legislation allowing local government the option
401 to engage in collective bargaining with public sector employees. Dane County is
402 committed to a fair and respectful bargaining process and to bargaining in good
403 faith with our employees, even if state statutes no longer require collective
404 bargaining between Dane County and its employees. Oppose attacks on
405 workers' rights.
 - 406 • **Balance of Power:** Oppose efforts to alter the authority and/or responsibilities
407 among county boards, county executives or administrators, and constitutional
408 officers and upset the balance of power in county government across Wisconsin.
 - 409 • **Dark Store Loophole:** Oppose the Dark Store Loophole by clarifying that leases
410 are appropriately factored into the valuation of leased properties and that when
411 using the comparable sale method of valuation, assessors shall consider as
412 comparable only those sales within the same market segment exhibiting a similar
413 highest and best use rather than similarly sized but vacant properties in
414 abandoned locations.
 - 415 • **Project Labor Agreements:** Support the restoration of local governments' ability
416 to enter into Project Labor Agreements.

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418 **Public Safety and Emergency Management**

- 419 • **EMA Services:** Support legislation that encourages financial support of
420 volunteers in emergency medical services and that addresses liability issues and
421 professional standards. Support state reimbursement for radio frequency and
422 upgrade requirements.
- 423 • **Communications Surcharge for 911 Systems:** Support legislation to redirect
424 some of the Police and Fire Protection Fee surcharge to 911 Centers.
- 425 • **First Responder Training:** Require training for first responders on appropriate
426 procedures for identifying, assisting, and interacting with older adults as well as
427 other adults who may have complications from abuse, dementia, mental health
428 or other disorders.
- 429 • **Open Records Law:** Support updating the open records law to cover all county
430 costs for new and emerging labor-intensive records requests and associated

- 431 costs including redaction.
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- 433 • **Criminal Background Check:** Support additional funds to the Department of
- 434 Justice to enable conducting of uniform criminal background checks of to-be-
- 435 hired direct care workers by public non-profit agencies.
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- 437 • **Multi-line Telephone System (MLTS) Calls to 911:** Support legislation
- 438 requiring owners/operators of these systems to deliver Wisconsin 9-1-1 Centers
- 439 precise location information instead of merely the “headquarters office” location
- 440 and call-back numbers now delivered when callers from their system dial 9-1-1
- 441 seeking aid.
- 442
- 443 • **Support Gun Control:** Ban habitual criminals from obtaining concealed carry
- 444 permits, make the purchase of a firearm for somebody who is prohibited from
- 445 possessing a firearm a felony, make the possession of a concealed firearm by
- 446 those prohibited under Wisconsin law a felony, and require that private gun sales
- 447 be subject to criminal background checks performed by a federally licensed gun
- 448 dealer.
- 449
- 450 • **Concealed Carry Weapons:** Modify the concealed carry law to prohibit
- 451 concealed weapons from being carried onto the grounds, parking lots or areas
- 452 associated with convention, entertainment, and sporting facilities, venues where
- 453 the public assembles for tradeshows, demonstrations, conventions, consumer
- 454 shows, entertainment, sporting or educational events, including zoos, convention
- 455 centers, arenas, horse arenas, hockey arenas, concert and sporting venues for
- 456 public assembly events, including when those facilities are used for private
- 457 events, institutions of higher learning, public schools, child care facilities,
- 458 community centers, health care facilities, and public mass transportation.
- 459 Support setting concealed carry license fees at an amount sufficient to fund all
- 460 County Sheriffs’ costs associated with administering the law.

458 Criminal Justice and Corrections

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- 461 • **Racial disparities:** Support all efforts to remove racial inequities and
- 462 inequitable access to our broken criminal justice system. Support publishing
- 463 racial disparity and incarceration statistics at all levels of the criminal justice
- 464 system.
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- 466 • **Smart Justice:** Support legislation and state investments in smart justice
- 467 reforms that work to solve the problems of crime such as access to mental
- 468 health services, treatment for addiction, affordable housing, education, and
- 469 employment rather than simply punishing people.
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- 471 • **Triage and restoration:** Support state investment in community triage and
- 472 restoration centers.
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- 474 • **Alternatives to incarceration:** Support alternatives to incarceration
- 475 throughout the criminal justice system with strong state support for diversion
- 476 programs and adequately fund prisoner community re-entry programs to
- 477 increase success.
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- 479 • **Bail, Probation & Parole:** Support reforming the probation and parole
- 480 program to streamline the revocation process in order to reduce days in jail.
- 481 Support reforms to bail and conditions of pretrial release that respects the
- constitutional rights of the accused, enhances public safety, and incorporates
- evidence-based strategies.
- **Changes to state DOC process:** Urge the Wisconsin Department of
- Corrections to hold revocation hearings outside of jails and continue
- technological changes that help reduce length of stay.

- 482 • **Mental Health Courts:** Encourage state support for county mental health
483 courts.
- 484 • **Close Public Defender Eligibility Gap:** Support changing Public Defender
485 eligibility level to the same level as eligibility for appointed counsel to eliminate
486 the gap that currently requires the court to appoint counsel at county expense.
- 487 • **County Jail:** Support full state funding for probation and parole holds, more
488 funding for incarceration alternatives, and support Justice Impact Statements.
- 489 • **Treatment Alternatives and Diversion:** Support enhancements to public
490 safety and reduce unnecessary corrections related expenditures by (a)
491 Increasing funding for the treatment Alternatives and Diversion (TAD) Grant
492 Program by \$15 million annually; (b) Changing the TAD statute so that people
493 who were once convicted of a violent crime can be eligible if the new crime is
494 non-violent in nature; (c) Changing the statute so that people with a mental
495 health issue (and not a co-occurring addiction issue) can be eligible; and (d)
496 Focusing the growth in TAD in these three main areas: (1) Expansion of OWI
497 Courts, SSTOP, and other programs that address drunk driving; (2) Expansion
498 of drug treatment programs that can help deal with the growing heroin problem
499 as well as the lingering issues with methamphetamine, crack, , and other drugs;
500 and (3) Expansion of funding for treatment alternatives that are targeted to the
501 communities that have the state's highest incarceration rates.
- 502 • **Court Interpreters:** Support appointing court interpreters to all cases
503 regardless of indigency and support an increase in state funding for
504 reimbursement to counties for interpreter services.
- 505 • **Wisconsin Community Justice Reinvestment Act:** Support creation of
506 WCJRA to provide sentencing judges with more effective treatment options
507 while reducing the prison population and sharing the savings with counties to
508 fund local criminal justice/treatment programs.
- 509 • **Racial Disparity Subcommittee:** Support creation of a state Criminal Justice
510 Coordinating Council subcommittee on racial disparities within the criminal
511 justice system.
- 512 • **State Court System:** Increase state funding of the circuit court system,
513 including court security.
- 514 • **Victim-Witness Program:** Support full state funding of program costs.
- 515 • **Clerk of Court Fees:** Pursue statutory changes to increase the county share
516 of fines/forfeitures.
- 517 • **License Fee:** Support \$12 for driver's license suspension if the fee is payable
518 by the defendant.
- 519 • **Domestic Violence:** Support state funding for domestic violence prevention,
520 intervention, and prosecution, including funding for three ADA positions
521 dedicated to domestic violence and shelter services.
- 522 • **Fee Increase for Jury Trial:** Support legislation to increase the fee for a jury
523 trial from \$6 to \$15. The funding is needed to offset increases in juror
524 compensation.
- 525 • **Prisoner Hospitalization:** Oppose any legislation that would reverse/overturn
526 the WI Supreme Court ruling on the Meriter case.
- 527 • **District Attorney Funding:** Support increased state funding for more Deputy
528 District Attorney and Assistance District Attorney positions to meet growing
529 caseloads.
- 530 • **Mental Health Screenings:** Support and fund mental health screening and
531 treatment for jailed inmates in county juvenile detention, shelter homes, and
532 county jails.

- 533 • **Legalize Marijuana:** Support legislation legalizing marijuana. Dane County
534 voters approved by 76% “yes” votes and 24% “no” votes.
- 535 • **Interstate Traffic Tickets:** Amend State Statutes allowing Wisconsin to join
536 the Interstate Compact on Traffic Forfeitures to facilitate collection of out-of-
537 state traffic violators and capture a needed revenue source for the state and
538 county.
- 539 • **Boating Laws:** Authorize the state to license, regulate, and require
540 education/training for operation of motorized watercraft. Support legislation
541 making fines and associated penalties for drunken boating commensurate with
542 those for drunken driving.
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544 **Immigrants and Refugees**

- 545 • **Sanctuary Cities/Counties:** Oppose legislation that requires county
546 workers/law enforcement to review immigration status any time an individual
547 comes in contact with government workers. Oppose banning specified
548 immigrants from living in communities. Urge Wisconsin to seek grants for
549 Syrian refugee resettlement.
- 550 • **Drivers’ Licenses:** Support legislation that allows undocumented
551 immigrants to obtain drivers’ licenses.
- 552 • **In-State Tuition for Immigrants:** Support restoring the law for in-state tuition for
553 state residents who graduated from a Wisconsin High School, but lack proper
554 immigration documentation.

555 **Bicycle and Recreational Trails**

- 557 • **Transportation Aids:** Support the use of transportation aids for the construction
558 and maintenance of bicycle trails with significant commuter traffic.
- 559 • **Bike Trail Task Force:** Support the creation and development of a statewide
560 Bike Trail Task Force.
- 561 • **Commuter Transportation:** Support integrating bicycle transportation into
562 future commuter transportation systems.
- 563 • **Trail System Development:** Request DNR assistance in the development of
564 regional trail systems.
- 565 • **Eminent Domain:** Repeal Wis. Stat. 32.015, which prohibits local governments
566 from using eminent domain for constructing bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure.

567 **Mass Transit**

- 568 • **Regional Transit Authority:** Support legislation allowing local governments to
569 create Regional Transit Authorities (RTA) to provide regional transit services
570 across local government boundaries that is flexible enough to adapt to local
571 needs and has these basic parameters: A representative RTA could be formed
572 by one or more municipal governing bodies passing resolutions in support. A
573 referendum would need to be adopted by a majority of voters in each municipality
574 forming, or seeking to join the RTA. The amount of the sales tax would need to
575 be authorized in the referendum, but could not exceed 0.5%. The governing
576 board would be composed of elected officials, representative of the communities
577 within the RTA area.
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- **Update Wisconsin 2030 State Rail Plan:** Support state and federal funding for a high speed passenger rail line connecting Madison with the Twin Cities, Milwaukee, and Chicago.
 - **Airport Authority:** Oppose legislation that takes airport governance away from county government and gives it to a private/public airport authority.

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Local Road Funding and Projects

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- **Local Transportation:** Support a greater share of state and federal transportation funding going toward local transportation needs and services. Funding should be increased for General Transportation Aids, State Highway Maintenance, the County Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS) and Specialized Transportation for older adults and persons with disabilities. Require “farmland mitigation” for highway improvement projects. Funding formulas that discriminate against urban counties should be revised and the local match (now 50%) for CHIPS should be decreased.
 - **North Mendota Parkway:** Oppose the construction of four lanes on Main Street (HWY 19) in Waunakee. Support an update of the 2003 North Mendota Parkway traffic study, and request WIDOT to consider how the proposed North Mendota Parkway, Hwy 19, CTH K, CTH M and Hwy 13 relate to each other and Hwy 12. Support an implementation review of the “North E-Way”. Support state and federal funding for the North Mendota Parkway.
 - **Highway Funding:** Require WIDOT to provide more funding up front through operational reimbursement and incentivizing improvements.

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Waste and Renewables

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- **Recycling:** Support long-term state funding for state’s recycling program. Support continued state efforts to expand markets for recycled materials. Support allowing local governments or other entities to receive more than one state grant for innovative demonstration projects.
 - **Landfill Siting:** Allow municipalities to replace existing public landfills without a new DNR needs determination. Support modifying landfill negotiation-mediation process to include counties as an appropriate governing body for the approval of negotiated agreements. Support prohibiting the construction of landfills until the negotiation-mediation process is complete.
 - **Clean Sweep:** Support increased state/federal funding for household and Ag Clean Sweep.
 - **Oppose State Increases in Landfill/Solid Waste Fees and Program Reductions:** Oppose state increases to the landfill recycling tipping fee and environmental repair fee. Oppose the elimination or reduction of recycling and solid waste programs.

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Land Use, Land Records, and Land Regulation

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- **Flood Insurance Threat:** Oppose any proposal to suspend state floodplain rules that nullify federal flood insurance and jeopardize federal disaster assistance for Wisconsin flood victims.
 - **Wisconsin Land Information Program:** Support the continuation of the Wisconsin Land Information Program and grants.
 - **Comprehensive Planning:** Oppose legislation that undermines the comprehensive planning statutes.
 - **Transmission Lines:** Request the State supports an independent study of the need for additional high voltage transmission lines through Dane County.

- 631 Oppose the construction and operation of the proposed Cardinal-Hickory
 632 Creek transmission line pending the receipt of a comprehensive cost-benefit
 633 analysis of non-transmission alternatives.
- 634 • **Takings Legislation:** Oppose legislation that would require county
 635 government to compensate real property owners for restricted use or loss of
 636 property value as a result of law or regulations.
 - 637 • **Transmission Line Construction:** Support requiring power lines to be
 638 constructed underground to protect Dane County economic and
 639 environmental resources while enhancing resiliency and reliability during
 640 extreme weather events.
 - 641 • **Support Local Control of Nonmetallic Mining:** Oppose any state legislation
 642 that preempts local governments from enacting their own nonmetallic mining
 643 regulations and oversight of air/water quality, highway damage, noise and use
 644 contracts.
 - 645 • **Effigy Mounds & Burial Sites:** Oppose legislation that allows the
 646 disturbance or destruction of Native American effigy mounds and old
 647 burial sites.
 - 648 • **Utility Deregulation:** Oppose any deregulation that leads to higher consumer
 649 rates. Any attempts to restructure the delivery of electricity should address:
 650 reliability of electrical service, equitable benefits to large and small rate payers,
 651 the social and environmental impacts of restructuring, and the ability of
 652 counties to aggregate to purchase electricity.
 - 653 • **Holding Tanks as Systems of Last Resort:** Support changes in statutes and
 654 administrative rules that oppose using holding tanks except as a last resort for
 655 new and replacement septic systems. Modify rules and statutes to ensure
 656 funding from the Wisconsin Fund is for the least costly systems, excluding
 657 holding tanks, unless a holding tank is the system of last resort.
 - 658 • **Land Use and Natural Resource Protection:** Oppose any proposals that
 659 weaken Dane County's ability to responsibly manage the use of land within its
 660 jurisdiction, including but not limited to tools like comprehensive planning,
 661 zoning, land division/subdivision regulations, and shoreland, floodplain, and
 662 wetland regulation.
 - 663 • **Restore and Enhance Land Use Authority:** Support efforts to restore and
 664 expand Dane County's land use authority including but not limited to
 665 comprehensive planning, land division, zoning, and shoreland, wetland, and
 666 floodplain regulations to promote countywide planning.

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 668 **Elections**

- 669 • **Voter Registration Changes and Voter Identification Requirement:**
 670 Oppose legislation that changes same day voter registration, reduces
 671 times for absentee ballot voting and/or requires photo identification to
 672 vote.
- 673 • **Public Funding for Elections:** Support public financing for local and state
 674 elections.

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 676 **Community, Workforce and Economic Development**

- 677 • **Wisconsin's Fair Employment Act:** Oppose permitting an employer to
 678 refuse to employ, bar or terminate from employment an individual who has
 679 been convicted of a felony and who has not been pardoned for that felony,
 680 and pre-empting local government from adopting ordinances concerning
 681 employment discrimination based on arrest or conviction records that prohibit
 682 activity allowed under the state Fair Employment Act.
- 683 • **Minimum Wage:** Support increasing the minimum wage to a living wage.
- 684 • **UW Extension:** Support adequate staffing and funding levels to sustain

- 685 Dane County Extension's high-quality educational programs for farmers,
686 businesses, communities, families and young people.
- 687 • **Collective Bargaining and Workers Rights:** Support all workers having the
688 right to seek safe working conditions, benefits and fair pay through collective
689 bargaining and oppose
 - 690 • **Student Debt:** Support legislation to lower student debt by any means possible
691 including refinancing loans, implementing tax breaks for those paying back the
692 loans, reducing interest rates and ensuring tuition is affordable.
 - 693 • **School Choice Expansion:** Oppose the voucher program or a similar
694 facsimile in the Madison Metropolitan School District or in any Dane County
695 school system.
 - 696 • **Rural Broadband Coverage:** Support increasing financial support to expand
697 broadband services to underserved rural areas.

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Arts

- **Arts Funding:** Support increased funding for the arts across Wisconsin, especially for art projects in communities, schools, colleges, and public facilities.