

1 2019 RES-507
2 ESTABLISHING THE PUBLIC PROTECTION AND JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
3 FINES AND FEES SUBCOMMITTEE
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5 In recent years, the County Board has become increasingly concerned with the impact on low
6 income individuals of fines and fees assessed in the civil and criminal justice systems. In the
7 2019 budget, the County Board eliminated the county charges for families when their child is in
8 the secure juvenile detention facility, and the 2020 budget eliminated the fees for youth placed in
9 post-dispositional home detention.

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11 Rather than continue to address fees and fines one-by-one, the Public Protection and Judiciary
12 Committee has discussed establishing a subcommittee to complete a comprehensive review of
13 fines and fees. The purpose is to review the current fines and fees assessed in the civil, human
14 services, and criminal justice system throughout Dane County and determine how Dane County
15 can reduce or eliminate these fees, fines, and costs. The review would include analysis of the
16 financial hardship and justice hardship placed on low income individuals and their families
17 because of these fees. Finally, the subcommittee would make recommendations on approaches
18 to mitigate the impact of these charges.

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20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Public Protection and Judiciary Committee Fines
21 and Fees Subcommittee be established with 13 members:

- 22 --Presiding Dane County Circuit Court Judge or designee
- 23 --The District Attorney or designee
- 24 --The Public Defender or designee
- 25 --The Clerk of Courts or designee
- 26 --The Director of the Office of Equity and Inclusion or designee
- 27 --An Alder from the Madison Common Council, appointed by the Common Council President
- 28 --The following members, jointly appointed by the Chair of the County Board and the Chair of the
29 Public Protection and Judiciary Committee:
 - 30 -One county board member who serves on the Public Protection and Judiciary Committee,
 - 31 -One county board members who serves on the Health and Human Needs Committee,
 - 32 -5 Individuals who have been impacted by fines and fees within the human services, civil
33 justice, and/or criminal justice system; or representatives from community organizations
34 that work directly with people impacted by fines and fees within the human services, civil
35 justice, and/or criminal justice system.

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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the duties of the subcommittee shall be to complete a
38 comprehensive review of the current fines and fees assessed in the civil, human services, and
39 criminal justice system in Dane County and determine how Dane County can reduce or eliminate
40 these fees, fines, and costs. Finally, the subcommittee shall make recommendations on
41 approaches to mitigate the impact of these charges.

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43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the subcommittee shall make a report of findings and
44 recommendations, to include recommendations for the 2021 county budget, to the Public
45 Protection and Judiciary Committee and the Health and Human Needs Committee before
46 September 15, 2020.

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48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of the Corporation Counsel shall provide staff
49 support to the subcommittee.
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51 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the resident members appointed to the Public Protection and
52 Judiciary Committee Fines and Fees Subcommittee are eligible to be compensated with per
53 diems and mileage reimbursement at the same rate as is paid to County Board supervisors.
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