

1 Sub \_\_\_\_ 2020 RES-215 (Proposed Bayrd)  
2 IN OPPOSITION TO NO KNOCK SEARCH WARRANTS  
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4 The death of Breonna Taylor in Louisville, Kentucky has raised awareness nationally of the risks  
5 to innocent people of the policing practice of no-knock warrants. A 2014 report from the  
6 American Civil Liberties Union found that 20,000 no-knock warrants are issued each year in the  
7 United States.

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9 Governor Evers has proposed a number of criminal justice reform actions, including a bill  
10 prohibiting the execution of no-knock search warrants. The wording of the proposed legislation  
11 is as follows:

12 "968.14 (1) When executing a search warrant, a law enforcement officer may not enter  
13 the premises subject to the warrant without first identifying that he or she is a law  
14 enforcement officer and announcing the authority and purpose of the entry."  
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16 Locally, the Drug Task Force has sought judicial approval to execute no knock warrants. The  
17 Sheriff could implement a policy to no longer seek judicial approval for this type of warrant, or to  
18 participate in executing a no knock warrant as a member of any Task Force.

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20 No-knock warrants began during the Nixon Administration, to advance the “war on drugs” in the  
21 1970s and 1980s, with the goal of disrupting criminal activity before there was an opportunity to  
22 destroy evidence. In the 1997, the United States Supreme Court affirmed the use of no-knock  
23 warrants to ensure “the effective investigation of the crime” by preserving evidence before it was  
24 destroyed.  
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26 A study by the School of Justice Studies at Eastern Kentucky University Found that municipal  
27 police and sheriffs’ departments used no-knock warrants about 1,500 times a year in the early  
28 1980s, but that it rose to 40,000 times a year by 2000, and an estimated 60,000-70,000 times a  
29 year in 2010. The majority of those raids were for marijuana.

30 A review by the ACLU of federal no-knock Warrants in the 2010s found that Blacks and African  
31 Americans are six times more likely to have a no-knock warrant used on them than whites, that 62  
32 percent of the no-knock warrants were for drug searches, but that law enforcement found drugs  
33 in only 35 percent of those drug searches.

34 A New York Times investigation found that at least 94 civilians and 13 law enforcement officers  
35 died in no-knock raids in the U.S. between 2010 and 2016, while many more were seriously  
36 injured.  
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39 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Dane County Board of Supervisors opposes  
40 the use of no-knock warrants and supports action by the Wisconsin State Legislature to prohibit  
41 this practice throughout the entire state.

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43 ~~**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Dane County Board of Supervisors urges the Dane~~  
44 ~~County Sheriff to implement a policy to no longer seek judicial approval of no-knock warrants for~~  
45 ~~his deputies acting alone or with other local law enforcement.~~  
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47 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Evers, the Dane  
48 County legislative delegation, and Sheriff Mahoney.