

2017 RES-469

IN OPPOSITION TO LEGISLATION WHICH ALTERS THE BALANCE OF POWER AMONG
COUNTY BOARDS, COUNTY EXECUTIVES, AND CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

Chapter 59 of the Wisconsin State Statutes delineates the authority and responsibilities of county boards, as well as of county executives or county administrators in counties which have these positions. Various state statutes further delineate the constitutional powers of the sheriff, clerk of court, district attorney, register of deeds, county clerk, and treasurer. The statutes were crafted to equalize power between the branches of county government, with checks and balances which are the hallmark of American democracy.

Any alteration in the balance of power between or among the county executive, the county board, and the constitutional officers should only happen with common agreement of the parties involved. The residents of counties are best served when the legislative body, the executive, and the constitutional officers must come to common agreement regarding decisions.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Dane County include in its legislative agenda opposition to any state legislation which would alter the authority and/or responsibilities among county boards, county executives or administrators, and constitutional officers and upset the balance of power in county government across Wisconsin.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be shared with the Dane County state legislative delegation, members of the Wisconsin State Senate, Governor Scott Walker, and the Wisconsin Counties Association.