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**2014 RES-176**  
**REFERENDUM ON HEALTH CARE**

The State of Wisconsin has yet to take advantage of billions of new federal Medicaid dollars which would improve the state's BadgerCare program - these federal funds are available at any time, and, upon acceptance, would provide access to BadgerCare to an estimated 84,000 Wisconsin residents.

The decision to reject federal Medicaid funding shrinks the number of Wisconsin residents who have health care coverage while increasing the costs to the state for the BadgerCare program.

Nineteen counties have passed resolutions urging Wisconsin to use these federal funds, a position that has been reiterated by the Wisconsin Counties Association, and these federal funds would bring tens of millions of dollars into the Dane County economy over the next seven years and help an estimated 4,500 parents and childless adults in Dane County gain access to BadgerCare.

Having un-insured and under-insured residents has an impact on the Dane County Human Services Department. It can lead to untreated mental health or substance abuse. Additionally, a lack of preventive health care can lead to job loss, the inability to function, and loss of self-sufficiency.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Dane County Board of Supervisors hereby directs the Dane County Clerk to place the following advisory referendum question on the countywide ballot at the election to be held on November 4, 2014:

***“Shall the next Governor and State Legislature accept available federal funds for BadgerCare to ensure that thousands of Wisconsin citizens have access to quality and affordable health coverage?”***

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Dane County legislative delegation, the Governor, the Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, and the Wisconsin Counties Association.