

2016 RES-032

ALLOWING HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS TO USE COUNTY DESIGNATED ADDRESSES FOR THE  
PURPOSES OF RECEIVING AN ID

The homeless or transient in Wisconsin have many challenges, including difficulties in exercising their right to vote. Without a permanent address, it is difficult to produce the necessary proof of residence required to register. The new Voter ID law has also made voting harder for many, but especially the homeless. An address is needed by the Department of Motor Vehicles in order to process an ID card or driver's license which are produced out of state and mailed to the recipient at a later date.

The Department of Motor Vehicles allows citizens to use alternative addresses, such as homeless shelters or other locations that are convenient as long as they agree to receive the ID for the individual. Dane County addresses, such as the Job Center or JFF offices have been used in the past, but not in a consistent manner. Recently the Department of Motor Vehicles indicated they believed the County was refusing to allow homeless individuals to use County addresses as their own address. Use of County addresses for the purposes of an ID will help some homeless individuals exercise their right to vote if properly coordinated with a County case worker.

THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED, that Dane County believes every person who can legally vote should be able to vote and that it is our obligation to help ensure that right; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Dane County will allow homeless or transient individuals to use County designated addresses for the purposes of receiving an ID; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Department of Human Services is designated to coordinate which address should be used, prioritizing the convenience of the individual; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Department of Motor Vehicles be provided a copy of this resolution to ensure their knowledge of Dane County policy.