Sub 1 2020 RES-215 (Proposed Bayrd) IN OPPOSITION TO NO-KNOCK SEARCH WARRANTS

The death of Breonna Taylor in Louisville, Kentucky, has raised awareness nationally of the risks to innocent people of the policing practice of no-knock warrants. It is estimated that no-knock warrants are currently issued 60,000 to 70,000 times each year in the United States

The U.S. Congress has introduced the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act, which includes a ban on no-knock warrants along with other police reforms. The Act, introduced by U.S. Representative Karen Bass, has 230 co-sponsors and passed the U.S. House of Representatives with bipartisan support. It is currently pending before the U.S. Senate.

Governor Evers has proposed a number of criminal justice reform actions, including a bill prohibiting the execution of no-knock search warrants. The Wisconsin State Assembly Speaker's Task Force on Racial Disparities, which was co-chaired by Rep. and Sup. Shelia Stubbs and included Dane County Sheriff Kalvin Barrett, recommended that Wisconsin's Department of Justice (DOJ) collect data on the use of no-knock warrants from all state and local law enforcement agencies, as well as federal law enforcement agencies, and that Wisconsin's DOJ publish annual reports on the collected data. The data is critical for Wisconsin lawmakers to understand the prevalence and circumstances of the use of no-knock warrants in Wisconsin.

No-knock warrants began during the Nixon Administration to advance the "war on drugs" in the 1970s and 1980s, with the goal of disrupting criminal activity before there was an opportunity to destroy evidence. In 1997, the United States Supreme Court affirmed the use of no-knock warrants to ensure "the effective investigation of crime" by preserving evidence before it was destroyed.

A study by the School of Justice Studies at Eastern Kentucky University found that municipal police and sheriffs' departments used no-knock warrants about 1,500 times per year in the early 1980s, but that it rose to 40,000 times per year by the year 2000, and an estimated 60,000-70,000 times per year in 2010. The majority of those raids were for marijuana.

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

 A New York Times investigation found that at least 94 civilians and 13 law enforcement officers died in no-knock raids in the U.S. between 2010 and 2016, while many more were seriously injured.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors supports the passage of the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors supports the recommendations of the Speaker's Task Force and urges the Wisconsin DOJ to collect data on the use of no-knock warrants in Wisconsin.

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52 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Evers,
53 the Dane County state legislative delegation and congressional delegation, and Dane
54 County Sheriff Barrett.