

1 By Supervisors Romo West, Harris, Bowen and Broderick  
2  
3

4 **A RESOLUTION**  
5

6 urging the United States Congress to pass federal legislation limiting Student Loan  
7 interest rates, creating new loan forgiveness provisions, and converting some borrowers'  
8 private loans to federal loans.  
9

10  
11 WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors recognizes the  
12 importance of student loans for those pursuing college educations; and  
13

14 WHEREAS, the expiration of 3.4 percent interest rates on Stafford loans July 1,  
15 2012, would affect approximately six million undergraduate students, with a potential  
16 annual loss of at least \$1,000 for each student; and  
17

18 WHEREAS, U.S. student loan debt surpassed total credit card debt in 2010 and is  
19 projected to exceed \$1 trillion during 2012; and  
20

21 WHEREAS, 2012 college graduates with loans owe an average of more than  
22 \$25,000, up five percent from the year before; and  
23

24 WHEREAS, approximately 85 percent of student loan debt is owed to the federal  
25 government, and those loans typically carry lower interest rates and borrower  
26 protections such as income-based repayment maximums; and  
27

28 WHEREAS, Federal legislation S. 2343: Stop the Student Loan Interest Rate Hike  
29 Act, sponsored by Sen. Harry Reid, extends 3.4 percent interest rates on Stafford loans  
30 to July 1, 2013, and funds the extension through the closing of a loophole involving S-  
31 corporations that are not usually taxed by the Internal Revenue Service; and  
32

33 WHEREAS, Federal legislation H.R. 4170: Student Loan Forgiveness Act of 2012,  
34 sponsored by Rep. Hansen Clarke, permanently caps the interest rates at 3.4 percent,  
35 creates new loan forgiveness provisions and allows some borrowers to convert private  
36 loans to federal loans; and  
37

38 WHEREAS, the City of Milwaukee Common Council approved a similar resolution  
39 in support of these federal student loan bills on May 22, 2012, by a vote of 11 to 0; now,  
40 therefore,

41           BE IT RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby urges  
42 the United States Congress to pass S. 2343: Stop the Student Loan Interest Rate Hike  
43 Act, before the July 1, 2012, deadline and pass H.R. 4170: Student Loan Forgiveness Act  
44 of 2012; and

45

46           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Director of Intergovernmental Relations is  
47 hereby authorized and directed to deliver a copy of this resolution to our Federal  
48 lobbying representative, Broydrick and Associates, and to the President of the United  
49 States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate and the  
50 Wisconsin Congressional delegation.

## MILWAUKEE COUNTY FISCAL NOTE FORM

DATE: June 1, 2012

Original Fiscal Note

Substitute Fiscal Note

**SUBJECT:** A resolution urging the United States Congress to pass federal legislation limiting Student Loan interest rates, creating new loan forgiveness provisions, and converting some borrowers' private loans to federal loans.

**FISCAL EFFECT:**

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|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Direct County Fiscal Impact<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Existing Staff Time Required<br><input type="checkbox"/> Increase Operating Expenditures<br>(If checked, check one of two boxes below)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Absorbed Within Agency's Budget<br><input type="checkbox"/> Not Absorbed Within Agency's Budget<br><input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Operating Expenditures<br><input type="checkbox"/> Increase Operating Revenues<br><input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Operating Revenues | <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Capital Expenditures<br><input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Capital Expenditures<br><input type="checkbox"/> Increase Capital Revenues<br><input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Capital Revenues<br><input type="checkbox"/> Use of contingent funds |
|--|--|

*Indicate below the dollar change from budget for any submission that is projected to result in increased/decreased expenditures or revenues in the current year.*

	Expenditure or Revenue Category	Current Year	Subsequent Year
<b>Operating Budget</b>	Expenditure	0	0
	Revenue	0	0
	Net Cost	0	0
<b>Capital Improvement Budget</b>	Expenditure	0	0
	Revenue	0	0
	Net Cost	0	0

## DESCRIPTION OF FISCAL EFFECT

In the space below, you must provide the following information. Attach additional pages if necessary.

- A. Briefly describe the nature of the action that is being requested or proposed, and the new or changed conditions that would occur if the request or proposal were adopted.
- B. State the direct costs, savings or anticipated revenues associated with the requested or proposed action in the current budget year and how those were calculated. <sup>1</sup> If annualized or subsequent year fiscal impacts are substantially different from current year impacts, then those shall be stated as well. In addition, cite any one-time costs associated with the action, the source of any new or additional revenues (e.g. State, Federal, user fee or private donation), the use of contingent funds, and/or the use of budgeted appropriations due to surpluses or change in purpose required to fund the requested action.
- C. Discuss the budgetary impacts associated with the proposed action in the current year. A statement that sufficient funds are budgeted should be justified with information regarding the amount of budgeted appropriations in the relevant account and whether that amount is sufficient to offset the cost of the requested action. If relevant, discussion of budgetary impacts in subsequent years also shall be discussed. Subsequent year fiscal impacts shall be noted for the entire period in which the requested or proposed action would be implemented when it is reasonable to do so (i.e. a five-year lease agreement shall specify the costs/savings for each of the five years in question). Otherwise, impacts associated with the existing and subsequent budget years should be cited.
- D. Describe any assumptions or interpretations that were utilized to provide the information on this form.

Approval of this resolution will indicate Milwaukee County's support of federal legislation relating to student loans. No expenditure of funds are required, but an expenditure of staff time will be needed to communicate the contents of this resolution to the designated individuals.

Department/Prepared By Steve Cady, Fiscal and Budget Analyst, County Board

Authorized Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Did DAS-Fiscal Staff Review?        Yes        No

<sup>1</sup> If it is assumed that there is no fiscal impact associated with the requested action, then an explanatory statement that justifies that conclusion shall be provided. If precise impacts cannot be calculated, then an estimate or range should be provided.

1 By Supervisors Bowen, Haas, Johnson, Stamper and Mayo  
 2  
 3

4 **A RESOLUTION**  
 5

6 reaffirming Milwaukee County's support of an approved advisory referendum for a  
 7 dedicated sales tax to support county transit, parks, recreation and culture programs and  
 8 the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) program and property tax relief in light of efforts to  
 9 seek taxpayer funds to help replace the BMO Harris Bradley Center  
 10  
 11

12 WHEREAS, the Milwaukee Board of Supervisors approved File No. 08-217 on June  
 13 26, 2008, that established an advisory referendum on November 4, 2008, that asked all  
 14 County voters the following question:  
 15

16 *Shall the State of Wisconsin grant Milwaukee County the authority to provide*  
 17 *property tax relief of at least sixty-seven million dollars (\$67 million) by levying a*  
 18 *one percent (1%) county sales and use tax to be used to remove the following three*  
 19 *items from the property tax levy: parks, recreation and culture, transit and*  
 20 *emergency medical services (EMS)?*  
 21

22 ; and  
 23

24 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County voters approved the advisory referendum on  
 25 November 4, 2008, by a margin of 52 to 48 percent; and  
 26

27 WHEREAS, a Milwaukee Journal Sentinel editorial on November 5, 2008, was  
 28 headlined: *People Have Spoken: It's time to move forward on a Milwaukee County sales*  
 29 *tax increase to protect parks, transit and other key services and to offer property tax relief;*  
 30 and  
 31

32 WHEREAS, despite the support from the voters, media and effort by many  
 33 policymakers, the State Legislature and governor have yet to adopt and sign into law  
 34 authority to enact the referendum as approved by Milwaukee County voters; and  
 35

36 WHEREAS, since that time, Milwaukee County Parks, Recreation and Culture  
 37 functions have been cut even further, including fewer park maintenance workers, less aid  
 38 for museums and cultural groups; and  
 39

40 WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Transit System has steadily reduced bus routes  
 41 and frequency while raising the cash fare to one of the highest in the country while relying  
 42 on almost \$17 million in federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funding  
 43 that will be exhausted early in 2014 to maintain service; and  
 44

45 WHEREAS, the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) program, which helps operate  
46 the countywide paramedic services, was targeted for major cuts in 2012 as the County  
47 Executive proposed to eliminate the entire \$3 million subsidy to specific municipalities  
48 before the County Board restored half of the funding; and

49

50 WHEREAS, the Bradley Center was opened in 1988 due to the generous \$93  
51 million donation by Jane Bradley Petit, in memory of her father, Harry Lynde Bradley; and

52

53 WHEREAS, the Bradley Center is now 24-years old and needs to be replaced in  
54 order to attract and retain our professional basketball franchise, provide space for other  
55 sporting teams and quality space for major concerts and other events; and

56

57 WHEREAS, the Bradley Center was recently renamed the BMO Harris Bradley  
58 Center in recognition of the BMO Harris Bank's pledge of more than \$1 million per year in  
59 naming sponsorship rights; and

60

61 WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce has been  
62 instrumental in putting together a coalition of sponsorship commitments from other major  
63 local businesses that is expected to provide an estimated \$18 million over the next six-  
64 years for building maintenance and other things to increase revenue that will serve as a  
65 bridge to the building of a new facility; and

66

67 WHEREAS, Senator and Milwaukee Bucks owner Herb Kohl, after contributing \$25  
68 million toward the construction of the University of Wisconsin's Kohl Center, has also  
69 pledged a significant personal contribution towards a new facility to replace the BMO  
70 Harris Bradley Center; and

71

72 WHEREAS, the Journal Sentinel has lauded these efforts (*Bradley Center* editorial  
73 May 22, 2012) to rally support for a much needed new facility and suggested that a public-  
74 private partnership will be needed to complete the process and that taxpayers will need to  
75 step up; and

76

77 WHEREAS, currently residents in five Milwaukee area counties (Milwaukee,  
78 Ozaukee, Racine, Washington and Waukesha) pay 0.1% (one-tenth of one-percent) sales  
79 tax toward the construction costs of Miller Park, home of our professional baseball  
80 franchise, with the tax currently estimated to sunset sometime in 2017; and

81

82 WHEREAS, Transit, Parks, Recreation and Culture and EMS need the community to  
83 rally behind dedicated sales tax funding to save these programs and services, similar to the  
84 current effort to build a new sports and entertainment facility; and

85

86 WHEREAS, no public tax dollars should be authorized to rebuild the BMO Harris  
87 Bradley Center until dedicated sales tax funding has been secured to preserve the

88    aforementioned County programs and services, as supported by the passage of a public  
89    referendum; and

90           WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors envisions a first-class  
91    County that has a robust transit system, vibrant parks, recreation and culture amenities,  
92    effective emergency medical system and a state-of-the-art sports and entertainment facility;  
93    now, therefore,

94  
95           BE IT RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby reaffirms  
96    the results of the 2008 advisory referendum voters approved that asked the State to grant  
97    Milwaukee County the authority to provide property tax relief of at least sixty-seven million  
98    dollars (\$67 million) by levying a one percent (1%) county sales and use tax to be used to  
99    remove the following three items from the property tax levy: parks, recreation and culture,  
100   transit and emergency medical services (EMS); and

101  
102           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Board hereby applauds the private  
103    sector in its efforts to secure the immediate future of the BMO Harris Bradley Center and  
104    the replacement of the aging sports and entertainment facility in the coming years to,  
105    among other things, preserve a local professional basketball team; and

106  
107           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Board opposes the use of public tax  
108    dollars for the replacement of the BMO Harris Bradley Center unless dedicated sales tax  
109    funding has also been secured for the county programs and services identified above,  
110    which the voters already approved by referendum; and

111  
112           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors  
113    envisions a Milwaukee County that has a robust transit system, vibrant parks, recreation  
114    and culture amenities, effective emergency medical system and a state-of-the-art sports and  
115    entertainment facility hosting a professional basketball franchise; a goal that can be  
116    achieved if the private and public sector work together to make it a reality; and

117  
118           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Director of Intergovernmental Relations is  
119    authorized and directed to communicate this resolution to State policymakers, local  
120    business groups and any other parties deemed beneficial in helping to achieve the goals of  
121    this resolution.

## MILWAUKEE COUNTY FISCAL NOTE FORM

**DATE:** June 8, 2012

Original Fiscal Note

Substitute Fiscal Note

**SUBJECT:** A resolution reaffirming Milwaukee County's support of an approved advisory referendum for a dedicated sales tax to support county transit, parks, recreation and culture programs and the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) program and property tax relief in light of efforts to seek taxpayer funds to help replace the BMO Harris Bradley Center

**FISCAL EFFECT:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Direct County Fiscal Impact<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Existing Staff Time Required<br><input type="checkbox"/> Increase Operating Expenditures<br>(If checked, check one of two boxes below)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Absorbed Within Agency's Budget<br><input type="checkbox"/> Not Absorbed Within Agency's Budget<br><input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Operating Expenditures<br><input type="checkbox"/> Increase Operating Revenues<br><input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Operating Revenues | <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Capital Expenditures<br><input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Capital Expenditures<br><input type="checkbox"/> Increase Capital Revenues<br><input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Capital Revenues<br><input type="checkbox"/> Use of contingent funds |
|--|--|

*Indicate below the dollar change from budget for any submission that is projected to result in increased/decreased expenditures or revenues in the current year.*

	Expenditure or Revenue Category	Current Year	Subsequent Year
<b>Operating Budget</b>	Expenditure	0	0
	Revenue	0	0
	Net Cost	0	0
<b>Capital Improvement Budget</b>	Expenditure	0	0
	Revenue	0	0
	Net Cost	0	0

**DESCRIPTION OF FISCAL EFFECT**

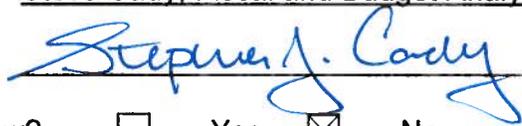
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- B. State the direct costs, savings or anticipated revenues associated with the requested or proposed action in the current budget year and how those were calculated. <sup>1</sup> If annualized or subsequent year fiscal impacts are substantially different from current year impacts, then those shall be stated as well. In addition, cite any one-time costs associated with the action, the source of any new or additional revenues (e.g. State, Federal, user fee or private donation), the use of contingent funds, and/or the use of budgeted appropriations due to surpluses or change in purpose required to fund the requested action.
- C. Discuss the budgetary impacts associated with the proposed action in the current year. A statement that sufficient funds are budgeted should be justified with information regarding the amount of budgeted appropriations in the relevant account and whether that amount is sufficient to offset the cost of the requested action. If relevant, discussion of budgetary impacts in subsequent years also shall be discussed. Subsequent year fiscal impacts shall be noted for the entire period in which the requested or proposed action would be implemented when it is reasonable to do so (i.e. a five-year lease agreement shall specify the costs/savings for each of the five years in question). Otherwise, impacts associated with the existing and subsequent budget years should be cited.
- D. Describe any assumptions or interpretations that were utilized to provide the information on this form.

Approval of this resolution will not require an expenditure of funds. Intergovernmental Relations staff time will be required to communicate the contents of the resolution to the identified parties.

Department/Prepared By Steve Cady, Fiscal and Budget Analyst, County Board

Authorized Signature



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Did DAS-Fiscal Staff Review?        Yes        No

<sup>1</sup> If it is assumed that there is no fiscal impact associated with the requested action, then an explanatory statement that justifies that conclusion shall be provided. If precise impacts cannot be calculated, then an estimate or range should be provided.

JUN 26 2008

By Supervisors Mayo, Broderick, Weishan, Holloway and Jursik

Sub. Res. 1  
submitted 2  
by Mayo, 3  
et. al. 4  
on 5  
substitution 6  
12-6 7  
DeBruin 8  
sub. amend. 9  
DOQ reg. 10  
SA Reg. 11  
on Dec. 1 12  
of amend. 13  
13-5 14  
on Dec. 2 15  
of amend. 16  
13-5 17  
on Dec. 3 18  
of amend. 19  
5-13 20  
as 21  
amended 22  
12-6 23

**AN AMENDED SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION**

(to File Nos. 08-248 and 08-217)

Item 5, from the Parks, Energy and Environment Committee and Item 4, from the Transportation, Public Works and Transit Committee

Providing for an advisory referendum on the question of whether the State of Wisconsin should grant Milwaukee County the authority to levy a one percent (1%) county use and sales tax, the revenues of which will be dedicated to support property tax relief, Milwaukee County parks, recreation and culture programs and services, transit services and the emergency medical services (EMS) program.

WHEREAS, the amount of discretionary funding available for Milwaukee County's parks system, cultural institutions and transit system continues to decline, as costs for mandated services and personnel costs rise exponentially; and

WHEREAS, funding for emergency medical services (EMS) needs to be preserved and protected as it is a vital county service for which funding has been threatened in the past; and

WHEREAS, these programs are recognized for the social, health, environmental and economic benefits they provide to the quality of life in the community and region as a whole; and

WHEREAS, the County's parks, recreation, cultural and transit services cannot rely on the property tax levy as a possible source of additional revenue for these discretionary county programs because all counties are required to adhere to a property tax levy cap imposed by the State of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the demand for county-wide property tax relief, in addition to the need to provide a stable source of funding for parks, recreational, cultural, transit and EMS services to Milwaukee County residents, continues to increase; and

WHEREAS, the sales and use tax is deemed to be the most appropriate source of funding for these purposes, as it is not a regressive tax (given the number of exemptions to the tax), its revenues generally account for adjustments to inflation and approximately 30% of revenues are realized from non-county residents, who use many of Milwaukee County's services but do not pay property taxes in the county; and

WHEREAS, a one percent (1%) sales tax increase would generate approximately \$130 million in revenues, of which approximately \$62 million would fund the Parks Department, Zoo, Milwaukee Public Museum, Milwaukee County Historical Society, War

UL 24 2008  
Vetoed by  
Co. Exec.  
Broderick  
moved  
No obj.  
2011

SEP - 4 2008  
Veto  
overridden

13-6

46 Memorial Center, Villa Terrace/Charles Allis Museums, Marcus Center for the Performing  
47 Arts, Fund for the Arts Program, Federated Library System and VISIT Milwaukee, \$62  
48 million would fund the Milwaukee County Transit System and \$6 million would fund the  
49 EMS program; and

50

51 WHEREAS, a portion of the \$130 million in revenues generated by the increased  
52 sales and use tax would be used for property tax relief by removing these programs and  
53 services from the property tax levy, which totaled \$67 million in the 2008 Milwaukee  
54 County budget; and

55

56 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County would be required to establish separate accounts for  
57 the deposit of sales tax revenue for the strict purpose of funding parks, recreation, cultural  
58 and transit programs and services and the EMS program; and

59

60 WHEREAS, these accounts would be separate from other parts of the overall county  
61 budget and would not be transferable to other county programs; and

62

63 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County does not have the authority to impose an increase in  
64 the county sales and use tax; therefore, the County must seek approval from the Wisconsin  
65 State Legislature; and

66

67 WHEREAS, prior to requesting approval of an additional sales and use tax for  
68 Milwaukee County, the County Board of Supervisors wishes to call an advisory referendum  
69 to allow the citizens of Milwaukee County to have a direct voice in how to provide  
70 property tax relief and fund parks, recreation and culture, transit and EMS services; and

71

72 WHEREAS, this referendum would be on the question of whether the State of  
73 Wisconsin should grant Milwaukee County the authority to levy a one percent county sales  
74 and use tax, the revenues of which will be dedicated to support county parks, recreation,  
75 cultural and transit programs and services, and the EMS program; now, therefore,

76

77 BE IT RESOLVED, by the County Board of Supervisors of Milwaukee County,  
78 Wisconsin, as follows:

79

80 Section 1. Referendum Election. The County Clerk is hereby directed to call an  
81 advisory referendum election to be held in the County at the regularly scheduled election  
82 to be held on November 4, 2008, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of  
83 the County the proposition of whether the State of Wisconsin should grant Milwaukee  
84 County the authority to levy a one percent county sales and use tax, the revenues of which  
85 will be dedicated to support county transit, parks, recreation and culture programs and the  
86 EMS program and provide property tax relief of at least \$67 million, shall be approved.  
87 The referendum shall be held, noticed and conducted following the procedures set forth in  
88 Section 59.25(25) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

89

90           Section 2. Official Referendum Ballot Form. The ballot to be used at the  
91 referendum election shall be prepared in accordance with the provision of Sections 5.64(2)  
92 and 7.08(1)(a) of the Wisconsin Statutes. The ballot shall be substantially in the form  
93 attached hereto as Exhibit A.  
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**EXHIBIT A**

OFFICIAL REFERENDUM BALLOT

November 4, 2008

NOTICE TO ELECTORS: THIS BALLOT MAY BE INVALID UNLESS INITIALED BY TWO (2) ELECTION INSPECTORS. IF CAST AS AN ABSENTEE BALLOT, THE BALLOT MUST BEAR THE INITIALS OF THE MUNICIPAL CLERK OR DEPUTY CLERK.

If you desire to vote on the question, make a cross (X) in the square beneath the question after "YES" if in favor of the question or make a cross (X) in the square after "NO" if opposed to the question.

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**ADVISORY REFERENDUM**

Shall the State of Wisconsin grant Milwaukee County the authority to provide property tax relief of at least sixty-seven million dollars (\$67 million) by levying a one percent (1%) county sales and use tax to be used to remove the following three items from the property tax levy: parks recreation culture, transit and emergency medical services (EMS)?

YES

NO

120

(Reverse Side of Ballot)

121

122

OFFICIAL REFERENDUM BALLOT

123

for

124

Milwaukee County, Wisconsin

125

126

Polling Place: \_\_\_\_\_

127

128

November 4, 2008

129

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Ballot issued by \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Initials of Inspectors of Election

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Absent Voter's Ballot issued by \_\_\_\_\_

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Initials of Municipal Clerk or Deputy Clerk

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Certification of Elector Assistance

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144

I certify that this ballot was marked or punched by me for an elector who is authorized under the law to have assistance, upon request, and as directed by the elector.

145

146

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of assisting individual)

147

148

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151

JE  
June 26, 2007  
H:\Shared\Research Analysts\Esch\One Percent Sales Tax for Parks, Transit, Safety - Weishan.doc