

Opposing 2009 State Assembly Bill 149

WHEREAS, 2009 State Assembly Bill (AB)149 proposes reducing the interest rate for unpaid property taxes from twelve percent (12%) to six percent (6%); and

WHEREAS, if the interest rate had been reduced in 2008, it would have resulted in a lost revenue in Polk County totaling \$226,860 total \$453,719 interest on delinquent taxes that was budgeted for that year; and

WHEREAS, 2009 year-to-date loss of interest revenue would be \$98,755 had the proposed legislation been previously enacted; and

WHEREAS, if adopted, the reduced interest rate would will result in a loss of interest revenue, would have to be offset by a reduction in County Services; and

WHEREAS, temporarily reducing the interest rate charge on delinquent property is not a solution that will result in long-term relief to taxpayers and may serve to create confusion if the interest rate is again raised in the future; and

WHEREAS, lowering the interest rate may increase tax delinquencies, tax payers could find if financially beneficial to first pay off debt that has a higher interest rate before paying their real-estate taxes with the lower 6% interest rate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Polk County Board of Supervisors hereby opposes any Legislative proposal to reduce the interest rate charged on delinquent property taxes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the County Clerk to Governor Doyle and Polk County's representatives in the Wisconsin State Senate and Assembly.

Date Finance Committee Advised/Passage: June 3, 2009
Effective Date: Upon Passage

Approved as to form

Jeff Fuge
Jeff Fuge, Corporation Counsel

Date Submitted to County Board: June 16, 2009

County Board Action: adopted Effective: upon passage

Submitted at the Recommendation of the Finance Committee:

Bryan Beseler

Brian Masters 6/3/09
Brian Masters

Gary Bergstrom
Gary Bergstrom

Kathryn Kienholz 6/3/09
Kathryn Kienholz

Mick Larsen
Mick Larsen

This Resolution was enacted by the Polk County Board of Supervisors on June 19, 2009.

Bryan Beseler, Polk County Board Chairperson

Dated: _____

Attest: _____
Carole Wondra, County Clerk

Dated: _____

