

1 Polk County Board of Supervisors  
2 Resolution No. 31-17

Resolution In Support of Legislation to Expand Technical College Educational Programs and  
Services to Underserved Counties.

3 Ladies and Gentlemen:

4 WHEREAS, within the Wisconsin Technical College System, there are 16 district colleges, with  
5 the Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College (WITC) District having campuses in Ashland,  
6 Superior, Rice Lake and New Richmond and outreach centers in Hayward and Ladysmith; and

7 WHEREAS, in establishing the Wisconsin Technical College System, the Legislature established  
8 the public policy in Wisconsin Statute Section 38.001 to provide for a technical college system to  
9 develop and deliver educational programs and services to all members of the public by  
10 functioning cooperatively with other educational institutions and governmental bodies; and

11 WHEREAS in accordance with state law, technical college districts have the duty and  
12 responsibility to actively coordinate with school boards the responsibility for providing  
13 vocational training; and

14 WHEREAS, pursuant to state law, technical college districts have the authority to enter into  
15 contracts to provide educational services with local governmental bodies and lease governmental  
16 facilities to deliver educational programs and services; and

17 WHEREAS, despite current legislation, counties situated to adjacent counties with technical  
18 colleges and outreach centers are underserved in technical and vocational educational  
19 opportunities; and

20 WHEREAS, the WITC District has identified in its 2015-2018 Strategic Plan strategic objectives  
21 to develop a systematic approach that will raise students' level of essential skills for success in  
22 both employment and life; to analyze and determine programming needs and opportunities by  
23 meeting community needs and serving district residents, and to plan and improve facilities and  
24 technology to support the learning environment; and

25 WHEREAS, in accordance with state law, counties develop and implement comprehensive plans  
26 that address objectives for the future development of counties and promote, retain and expand  
27 economic development and employment opportunities within the counties and identify goals and  
28 action plans to attain such objectives; and

29 WHEREAS, the Polk County 2009 Comprehensive Plan identifies the need to promote and  
30 expand post-secondary educational opportunities and facilities in the County to stabilize, retain  
31 and expand economic development within the County; and

32 WHEREAS, consistent with the community facilities element of comprehensive planning, Polk  
33 County has determined there is currently existing Library, School and Polk County Government  
34 facilities that would be suitable for WITC educational programs through cooperation with Polk  
35 County; and

36 WHEREAS, the WITC District and the Polk County Board of Supervisors has recognized that  
37 Polk County is underserved in technical and vocational educational programming; and

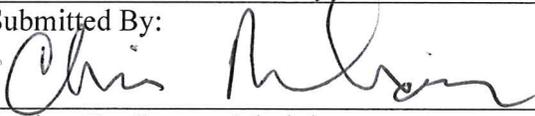
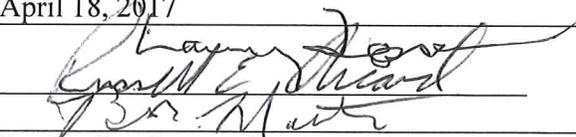
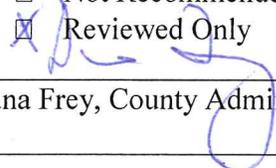
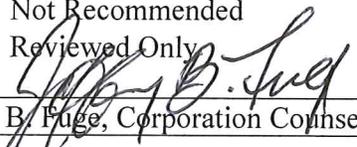
38 WHEREAS, it is in the public interest as a state-wide concern to expand the statutory duties and  
39 responsibilities of technical college districts to actively coordinate with counties that are  
40 underserved in technical and vocational educational programming.

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Polk County Board of Supervisors requests  
42 the Wisconsin Legislature to amend the duties and powers of technical college districts, as  
43 enumerated respectively in Wisconsin Statute Sections 38.12(8) and 38.14(3) to require district  
44 boards to actively coordinate and contract with counties to provide for and expand technical and  
45 vocational training programs in the facilities of the counties in which a technical college campus  
46 is not located and which are determined to be underserved in the provision of technical and  
47 vocational educational opportunities.

48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Polk County Board of Supervisors supports that such  
49 legislation be effective and implemented as a strategic initiative of technical college strategic  
50 plans for the period commencing January 2018.

51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Polk County Board of Supervisors requests the WITC  
52 District Board to actively coordinate with Polk County to develop and implement a pilot program  
53 as a model to bring higher education to rural communities around the state that have been  
54 determined to be under served.

55 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Polk County Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk to  
56 distribute a copy of this resolution to Governor Scott Walker; Senators Sheila Harsdorf and Janet  
57 Bewley; Assembly Representatives Adam Jarchow and Romaine Quinn; the Wisconsin  
58 Technical College System Board, the WITC District Board and the Wisconsin Counties  
59 Association.

Funding Source/ Funding Amount:	Not Applicable
Date Reviewed as to Appropriations:	Not Applicable
Committee Recommendation as To Appropriation:	Not Applicable
Effective Date:	Upon Passage
Dated Submitted To County Board	April 18, 2017
Submitted By: 	
Review By County Administrator: <input type="checkbox"/> Recommended <input type="checkbox"/> Not Recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reviewed Only  Dana Frey, County Administrator	Review By Corporation Counsel: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved as to Form <input type="checkbox"/> Recommended <input type="checkbox"/> Not Recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reviewed Only  Jeffrey B. Fuge, Corporation Counsel

Acknowledgement of County Board Action

At its regular business meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of April 2017, the Polk County Board of Supervisors considered and acted on the above resolution, Resolution No. 31-17: Resolution In Support of Legislation to Expand Technical College Educational Programs and Services to Underserved Counties, as follows:

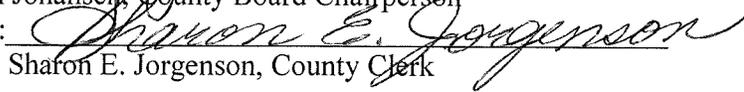
- By simple majority by a vote of \_\_\_\_\_ in favor and \_\_\_\_\_ against.
- Enacted by unanimous vote.
- Defeated by a vote of \_\_\_\_\_ in favor and \_\_\_\_\_ against.
- Defeated by voice vote.
- Action Deferred by Procedural Action, as follows: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNED BY:



Dean Johansen, County Board Chairperson

Attest:



Sharon E. Jorgenson, County Clerk

**CERTIFIED COPY OF POLK COUNTY RESOLUTION**

STATE OF WISCONSIN

COUNTY OF POLK

I Sharon E. Jorgenson, Polk County Clerk do hereby certify that the attached hereto and incorporated herein is a full, true and correct copy of Resolution No. 31-17, Resolution in Support of Legislation to Expand Technical College Educational Programs and Services to Underserved Counties, adopted by the Polk County Board of supervisors at its regular business meeting held on April 18, 2017

 4-19-2017

Sharon E. Jorgenson, Polk County Clerk

Date