

Resolution No. 3-0411

Resolution Opposing the Initiative in the Governor's Budget that Removes Income Maintenance Administration from Counties and Creates a State Operated Centralized Income Maintenance Unit

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF IOWA COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Iowa County Department of Social Services has historically provided Income Maintenance services for the citizens of Iowa County, and

WHEREAS, these programs include eligibility determinations for Family Care, Medicaid, Badger Care, Food Share, Energy Assistance and Child Care, and

WHEREAS, there are approximately 8,378 citizens of Iowa County receiving Income Maintenance services, and,

WHEREAS, the State 2011-2013 Biennial Budget Bill requires that the Income Maintenance administration unit services be centralized at the State by May 1, 2012; and,

WHEREAS, the state presently operates Badger Care Core and Badger Care Core Plus through an enrollment services center operated by a private entity, which is the identical model being proposed for state centralized IM function, and

WHEREAS, at present only 16% of its Badger Care Core and Badger Care Core Plus cases are being processed at the state level within the stated goal of the thirty day enrollment standard, and

WHEREAS, operating an effective income maintenance function requires knowledgeable and committed staff in a local setting that can enroll clients in a timely fashion with minimal errors, and solve complex problems in a short time period so that county residents do not go without basic needs, and,

WHEREAS, the Iowa County Board of Supervisors views Income Maintenance as a core mission of the department and not having a local presence would result in less effective service delivery and more costly child protective services, mental health and community support programs, juvenile justice services and long term support programs, now,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Iowa County Board of Supervisors does hereby go on record opposing the initiative in the Governors Budget that removes Income Maintenance services from counties and creates a statewide centralized Income Maintenance Unit.

Dated this 19th day of March, 2011

Respectfully Submitted,
IOWA COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE