

## Support for Increased Levy Limit Flexibility

**Whereas**, since 2006 the state has limited the ability of municipalities to increase their property tax levies from one year to the next; and

**Whereas**, prior to 2011 the levy limit law allowed communities who were not experiencing growth to increase their levy a minimum amount roughly equal to the rate of inflation; and

**Whereas**, since 2011 the limits have been based exclusively on the community's percentage increase in property value caused by new construction; and

**Whereas**, the state's levy limit policy has created a dynamic in which fast growing cities and villages have the financial resources to invest in services and infrastructure that help them further increase their growth, while no-growth and slow-growth communities stagnate; and

**Whereas**, Wisconsin has the strictest levy restriction in the country; and

**Whereas**, between 2012 and 2018 only 62 of 600 cities and villages experienced new construction averaging at least 2% per year, and 186 experienced growth of less than .5% per year; and

**Whereas**, Governor Tony Evers recommends as part of his state budget proposal, AB 56/SB 59, allowing municipalities to increase their annual levies over the prior year by the greater of the percentage change in equalized values due to net new construction or 2%; and

**Whereas**, The Governor also proposes eliminating the requirement that a municipality reduce its allowable levy by the amount of fee revenue it received in lieu of property taxes for providing a specified service (i.e., snow plowing, storm water management, fire protection, garbage collection, and street sweeping) that was funded with the property taxes in 2013.

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved**, that the City/Village of \_\_\_\_\_, as a member of the League of Wisconsin Municipalities, calls on the Legislature to pass a state budget retaining the levy limit law changes recommended by the Governor, including a 2% floor for levy limits, and directs the Clerk to send a copy of this resolution to the state legislators representing the City/Village of \_\_\_\_\_, to Governor Tony Evers and to the League.

For contact information for your Legislative Delegation please see: <http://legis.wisconsin.gov/>

Governor's address: Office of Governor Tony Evers, 115 East Capitol, Madison, WI 53702 or [govinfo@wisconsin.gov](mailto:govinfo@wisconsin.gov)

Questions – contact Gail Sumi, League Member Engagement and Comm. Director at [gsumi@lwm-info.org](mailto:gsumi@lwm-info.org) or direct at 608-267-4477