

**TOWN OF LIBERTY GROVE
RESOLUTION 1-20
SUPPORT OF ASSEMBLY BILL 544**

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA) is a self-supporting private corporation that receives no tax dollars for its operations; and

WHEREAS, WHEDA's Mission Statement is "to stimulate the State's economy and improve the quality of life for Wisconsin Residents by providing affordable housing and business financing products."; and

WHEREAS, WHEDA's Vision Statement is "to provide the tools to help people and communities realize their hopes and dreams"; and

WHEREAS, WHEDA is known as a leader in innovative housing strategies; and

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin is presently considering Assembly Bill 544 (as amended by Assembly Substitute Amendment 1), which proposes investing \$10 million in WHEDA funds for Workforce housing tax credits to stimulate the development of Workforce housing; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 544 (as amended by Assembly Substitute Amendment 1) also allows WHEDA to leverage its resources for greater benefit by engaging with existing partners in new ways and by encouraging potential partners to consider new opportunities in rural communities; and

WHEREAS, housing developers and municipal leaders have pointed to factors including: rising housing costs, limited developer interest due to the smaller scale of rural projects, aging housing stock, few affordable rental options, zoning and infrastructure challenges, and limited financing for new construction and renovation projects which currently hamper Workforce housing development; and

WHEREAS, in February of 2019 the Door County Economic Development Corporation (DCEDC) released the results of the third-party report Door County Housing Analysis; and

WHEREAS, The Door County Housing Analysis studied the need for Workforce housing for employees earning between 60% and 120% of Area Median Income (AMI); and

WHEREAS, The Door County Housing Analysis determined that Door County had a cumulative structural gap between 2010 and 2019 of 470 Workforce housing apartment units and a future need of an additional 110 Workforce housing apartment units between 2018 and 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the Town of Liberty Grove, Wisconsin, does hereby support Assembly Bill 544 (as amended by Assembly Substitute Amendment 1) and its potential to stimulate needed housing development so that rural counties, including the County of Door, Wisconsin, may help solve their present Workforce housing deficit.

I, Anastasia Bell, Clerk/Treasurer of the Town of Liberty Grove, Door County Wisconsin, hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution which was adopted at a properly noticed meeting of the Liberty Grove Town Board on the 7th day of February, 2020.

Dated this 7th day of February, 2020

Anastasia Bell, Clerk/Treasurer

Cc: Governor Tony Evers, State of Wisconsin; Representative Joel Kitchens, State of Wisconsin Assembly District 1; Senator Andre Jacque, State of Wisconsin Senate District 1; & Door County Economic Development Corporation