A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADISON, INDIANA SUPPORTING TARGETED PROPERTY TAX RELIEF AND REPLACEMENT FUNDING

WHEREAS, legislative proposals have been introduced in the Indiana General Assembly that will drastically reduce municipal property tax revenue and business personal property taxes, which would have a devastating fiscal impact on Hoosier municipalities, schools, and libraries nearing approximately \$1 billion annually statewide; and

WHEREAS, property tax revenue, which accounts for approximately 40% of the City of Madison's annual general operating budget, is the primary funding source for essential municipal services, including police and fire response, street maintenance, parks maintenance, and infrastructure investments; and

WHEREAS, the City of Madison has demonstrated fiscal responsibility by maintaining a low property tax rate, leveraging public-private partnerships, and securing new investments to sustain economic growth and fight inflation while keeping property tax increases minimal; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation would result in an approximate \$4.5 million loss of revenue for the City of Madison over the next three years alone, significantly impacting the city's ability to fund critical services and infrastructure projects, endangering public safety and economic development initiatives, which are vital to sustaining community growth and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, long-term restrictions on revenue growth would have compounding negative effects on future investments, job creation, and Madison's ability to sustain its momentum in tourism, economic development, and public safety improvements; and

WHEREAS, alternative funding mechanisms, such as local option income taxes, fail to fully replace lost property tax revenue, leaving municipalities unable to meet financial obligations and severely restricting their ability to issue bonds or invest in economic development or critical infrastructure projects; and

WHEREAS, jeopardizing the stability of municipal budgets and essential services will have a detrimental effect on business attraction, economic competitiveness, and overall community prosperity; and

WHEREAS, proposed tax policies create significant revenue disparities and shift the financial burden to individuals the proposal portrays to help, through increased reliance on local income taxes; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Madison, opposes the reduction of property tax revenue unless a state-implemented, equitable, and comprehensive replacement source is identified, ensuring full financial stability for municipal operations and services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Madison supports targeted property tax relief for seniors, veterans, and first-time homebuyers while ensuring that municipalities retain the necessary resources to provide critical services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be communicated to state lawmakers and relevant stakeholders to advocate for fiscally responsible legislation that protects the economic and operational viability of our City; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the City of Madison calls upon the Indiana General Assembly to reject any tax legislation that does not provide full and adequate replacement funding, ensuring continued investment in local public safety, infrastructure, and community development.

The foregoing Resolution was passed and adopted by the Common Council, City of Madison, Indiana at a regular meeting held on the 8th day of April 2025.

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

Shirley Rynearson, Clerk Treasurer

Council Member

Bob Courtney, Mayor