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**Sponsor:** Communications & Public Relations

**Meeting Date:** 12/22/2020

**Title:** 2021 Ramsey County Federal Legislative Platform

**File Number:** 2020-625

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**Background and Rationale:**

On December 1, 2020 the Legislative Committee of the Whole met and reviewed a draft of the 2021 Ramsey County Federal Legislative Platform, which had been prepared by the Government Relations staff. The draft contained earlier changes suggested by the members of the board at the County Board Workshop on November 10th. The Legislative Committee of the Whole approved the proposed platform as presented and asked staff to incorporate changes based on the discussion around mental and behavioral health. Additionally, the 2021 Federal Legislative Platform draft includes Legislative Guiding Principles, Ramsey Funding and Policy Priorities, and a statement of support for platforms of the National Association of County Officials (NACO).

The Legislative Committee of the Whole recommends the draft of the Ramsey County Federal Legislative Platforms to be submitted to the County Board, as summarized below:

**Racial and Health Equity**

- Protect Basic Human Rights of Immigrants
- Affordable Care Act (ACA)
- ERA Ratification
- Medicaid Services Financing

**Resiliency**

- Covid-19 Relief Funds
- Land and Water Conservation Fund Act (LAWCON)
- Clean Water
- Recycling and Energy
- Mental Health

**A Holistic Approach to Strengthening Families**

- Social Services Block Grant funding (SSBG)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Families First
- Parenting Time Orders

**Economic Competitiveness and Inclusion**

- Riversedge Deck
- Passenger Rail
- Transportation Reauthorization
- Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act

**Justice System Outcomes**

- Firearm Regulation
- ICE Detention During COVID-19 Pandemic

**Housing Stability**

- Affordable and Stable Housing
- HOME Investment Partnership
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- Tax Incentives for the Development of Affordable Housing

**Recommendation:**

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

1. Approve the 2021 Ramsey County Federal Legislative Platform.
2. Authorize county representatives to work with members of the Minnesota Congressional Delegation and other interested parties to promote legislation reflective of the positions contained in the platform.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner McDonough, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt.

Motion passed.

Aye: - 7: Carter, Frethem, MatasCastillo, McDonough, McGuire, Ortega, and Reinhardt

By: \_\_\_\_\_



Janet Guthrie, Chief Clerk - County Board