



# SUPERIOR FEDERATION OF LABOR

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## **RESOLUTION FROM THE SUPERIOR FEDERATION OF LABOR IN SUPPORT OF AN EXPOSITION DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, Superior is a small market community in Northwest Wisconsin that would benefit from an Exposition District in its effort to develop modern quality of life; attract and retain Millennials, Gen Xers, Baby Boomers and all generations; and, maintain and grow a workforce for current and future business needs. AARP magazines calls this concept an "Age-Friendly Community"; and,

WHEREAS, an Exposition District will contribute to attracting visitors, enhancing quality of life this community, and add vibrant activities in a concentrated area; and,

WHEREAS, Superior competes against Duluth, MN that has a variety of economic development tools, which includes tools like Exposition districts. This does place Superior at an economic disadvantage as it attempts to modernize and provide modern amenities that citizens and visitors both expect in a 21<sup>st</sup> Century community; and,

WHEREAS, an Exposition District created by the Wisconsin Legislature will create a locally funded economic development vehicle that will create exponential growth; and,

WHEREAS, Better City Superior has proposed a development of \$125 million public/private sector development that is leveraged by .05% Exposition District/County Wide food and beverage tax and an additional 3.5% hotel/motel tax; and,

WHEREAS, this legislation would enable Superior to leverage optional expenditures, generated through those taxes to provide foundational funding for a significant economic development project beneficial to local citizens and tourists; and,

WHEREAS, mixed use proposals like this Exposition District often include a variety of projects that meet the needs and desires of various age groups. Northwest Wisconsin and all of Wisconsin are concerned about brain drain when generations move to area that is seen as more desirable; and,

WHEREAS, Superior has taken three big hits recently: the closing of Target Store; the closing of the movie theatre; and, the impending closure of Kmart Store; and the community does need a competitive edge to attract new businesses to growth the area and compensate for those losses.

THEREFORE, Be It Resolved that the Superior Federation of Labor is strongly in favor of an Exposition District for Superior/Douglas County.

**UNION YES** 