

**ASSOCIATED RECYCLERS OF WISCONSIN (AROW) RESOLUTION OPPOSING  
INCREASES IN LANDFILL TIPPING FEE SURCHARGES AND OPPOSING ELIMINATION  
OF RECYCLING/ SOLID WASTE GRANT PROGRAMS:**

1           **WHEREAS**, the State of Wisconsin mandated recycling in 1990 under 1989 Wisconsin  
2 Act 335 and Administrative code NR 544; and

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4           **WHEREAS**, NR 544 requires Towns, Villages, Cities or Counties, hereafter  
5 Municipalities, to become Responsible Units for Recycling and as such are required to establish  
6 and pay for Effective Recycling Programs; and

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8           **WHEREAS**, the State of Wisconsin originally proposed to cost share 66% of the  
9 Municipalities' costs for establishing and maintaining Effective Recycling Programs; and

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11           **WHEREAS**, the State of Wisconsin currently only reimburses municipalities for less than  
12 30% of their residential recycling costs; and

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14           **WHEREAS**, the State of Wisconsin has imposed levy limits on Municipalities putting  
15 many under severe financial constraints; and

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17           **WHEREAS**, since 1990, the State has taken over one hundred eleven million dollars  
18 (\$111,000,000) away from the Segregated Recycling Fund to pay for other State programs; and

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20           **WHEREAS**, the State of Wisconsin has used monies raised to support municipal  
21 recycling programs as part of a failed attempt to balance the State's budget; and

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23           **WHEREAS**, AROW has been on record since 2007 in opposition to non-recycling  
24 related uses of the recycling fund; and

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26           **WHEREAS**, the last State biennial budget increased landfill tipping fee surcharges on  
27 every ton of solid waste disposed of in Wisconsin (excluding high volume industrial by-products)  
28 whereby, effective November 1, 2007, the recycling tip fee surcharge increased from \$3.00/ton  
29 to \$4.00/ton and the environmental repair fee increased from \$0.50/ton to \$1.60/ton; and

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31           **WHEREAS**, the current budget proposed by Governor Jim Doyle seeks another  
32 increase in the landfill tipping fee surcharges, whereby, effective October 1, 2009, the recycling  
33 tip fee surcharge would increase from \$4.00/ton to \$5.00/ton and effective July 1, 2009, the  
34 environmental repair fee would increase from \$1.60/ton to \$5.00/ton; and

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36           **WHEREAS**, these increases equate to a 67% increase in the recycling tip fee surcharge  
37 and a 900% increase in the environmental repair fee since October, 2007, and these increases  
38 will be implemented in the middle of a budget year, putting increased strain on already stressed  
39 municipal budgets; and

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41           **WHEREAS**, the proposed landfill tipping fee surcharge increases are coupled by  
42 elimination or reduction of grant programs serving municipalities and counties including:  
43 reduction of Basic Recycling Grants to responsible units from \$31 million/year to \$30.69  
44 million/year; elimination of the Recycling Efficiency Incentive Grant program, appropriated at  
45 \$1.9 million/year; elimination of the Waste Reduction and Recycling Demonstration Grant  
46 program, appropriated at \$500,000/year; elimination of the Clean Sweep Grant program, which  
47 funded agricultural chemical, household hazardous and unwanted pharmaceutical collection

48 programs, appropriated at \$1 million/year and elimination of the business waste reduction and  
49 recycling assistance program, appropriated at \$1 million/year;

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51 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that AROW opposes increases in the landfill  
52 tipping fee surcharges, as this will place an undue burden on municipalities and businesses,  
53 and past practice has demonstrated misuse of collected funds for General Purpose Revenue  
54 and other programs; and

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56 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that AROW opposes the elimination or reduction of  
57 recycling/solid waste grant programs which will further decrease the State's cost share of  
58 mandated recycling programs and increase the potential contamination of Wisconsin's  
59 environment through improper disposal of agricultural chemicals, household hazardous waste  
60 and unwanted pharmaceuticals due to the lack of collection opportunities; and

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62 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Wisconsin  
63 Counties Solid Waste Management Association, Solid Waste Association of North America-  
64 Badger Chapter, Wisconsin Counties Association, Wisconsin Towns Association, League of  
65 Wisconsin Municipalities, Wisconsin Alliance of Cities, Wisconsin League of Conservation  
66 Voters, Council on Recycling, Joint Committee on Finance and Governor Jim Doyle.

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Date