

DELTA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
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RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO HB 6049 and SB 1025

WHEREAS, House Bill (HB) 6049 and Senate Bill (SB) 1025 seeks to completely restructure the tax assessing qualifications, process and boundaries of local assessing units in Michigan; and

WHEREAS, HB 6049/SB 1025 will impose a financial burden on Delta County as well as Michigan's other counties and local units because its mandates will require increased staffing levels and office space while providing an inadequate 1% administrative fee and undefined "start-up funding" to compensate the counties and other local units for the drastic expenses that will surely accompany the new mandates; and

WHEREAS, HB 6049/SB 1025 will put Delta County at odds with its local townships by requiring us to take the 1% administration fee from the local units to pay for our increased costs; and

WHEREAS, HB 6049/SB 1025 changes the manner in which local boards of review (BOR) are conducted. By putting specialized BORs at the county level, HB 6049/SB 1025 has the potential to strip elected township supervisors and local assessing units of control over the tax assessing process, depriving them of the ability to account for unique conditions and values unknown to county-wide, regional and/or statewide assessing units but well known in the local units; and

WHEREAS, HB 6049/SB 1025 appears to have been designed without any input from existing assessors or their associations and the previous drafts were not made public to the counties and townships directly affected by its sweeping changes until nearly ready for introduction into the Michigan Legislature. In this context, it is difficult to view HB 6049/SB 1025 as anything other than a power grab generating from Lansing; and

WHEREAS, there are no guarantees that quality education will be available locally or even regionally to allow for the increased certification levels imposed by HB 6049/SB 1025; and

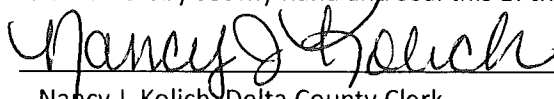
WHEREAS, HB 6049/SB 1025's proposed levels of certification for assessors will not achieve the results that are being sought. The real problem is bad assessors, not their levels of certification. The solution lies in better policing of assessors by the State Tax Commission, not simply imposing increased educational requirements that may be impossible to achieve and that do nothing to weed out the bad actors; and

WHEREAS, Delta County views HB 6049/SB 1025 in its current form as an unconstitutional unfunded mandate which does little or nothing to accomplish its stated goals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Delta County Board of Commissioners hereby opposes HB 6049/SB 1025 and asks that it be withdrawn from consideration until the funding issues and other problems identified above can be properly addressed.

I, Nancy Kolich, Delta County Clerk and Clerk of the Delta County Board of Commissioners do hereby certify this to be a true and exact copy from the minutes of the regular meeting of the Delta County Board of Commissioners held on July 17, 2018.

I, Nancy Kolich, Delta County Clerk do hereby set my hand and seal this 17th day of July, 2018.



Nancy J. Kolich, Delta County Clerk

