

**MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
RESOLUTION OF OPPOSITION TO THE K-16 SPENDING MANDATE**

WHEREAS, The Gogebic County Board of Commissioners is opposed to a guaranteed educational inflationary increase that would prevent counties from funding critical mandated services, and

WHEREAS, the *American School Board Journal* released their "Educational Vital Signs" report indicating that the state of Michigan ranks second only to Vermont in amount of state budget dedicated to education, with 31.5%, while the national average is 21.7%; and

WHEREAS, the national average teacher's salary is \$45,771, in Michigan the average is much higher, at \$54,000, which is second only to California at \$55,698; and

WHEREAS, the same report ranked Michigan 7th for dedication of administrative funding per pupil, but No. 1 outside of the Eastern Seaboard and Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Association of Counties is very supportive of fair funding for educational resources for Michigan's students as a means for a thriving quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Association of Counties is equally supportive of fair funding of critical emergency, local public health and public safety programs for Michigan's citizens as a means for a thriving quality of life as well; and

WHEREAS, the State Legislature and Governor are obligated to provide funding for Michigan's counties are to come back into revenue sharing beginning in F.Y. 2008, as part of a means for counties to provide these **state mandated** critical services; and

WHEREAS, if the K-16 spending mandate is passed will cost Michigan over \$1 billion dollars, with annual inflationary increases, that will surely cut into funding for revenue sharing, Medicaid, and other critical services counties and Michigan's citizens depend upon; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that Michigan's counties need to oppose the K-16 spending mandate in order to continue to provide the critical mandated services which the state requires, and that citizen's depend upon; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Michigan Legislature and Governor for their review.

Carried on a six years- one nay vote.