



EATON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AUGUST 16, 2006

RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION OF THE  
K-16 SPENDING MANDATE

**Introduced by the Finance Committee**

Commissioner Johnson moved the approval of the following resolution.  
Seconded by Commissioner Forell.

WHEREAS, Eaton County is opposed to a guaranteed educational inflationary increase; and

WHEREAS, this guarantee 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 7<sup>th</sup> for dedication of administrative funding per  
pupil, but No. 1 outside of the Eastern Seaboard and Alaska; and

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

WHEREAS, Eaton County 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, which are to come back into revenue sharing beginning in Fiscal Year  
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 upon which counties and Michigan's citizens depend; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Eaton County opposes the K-16 spending  
mandate in order to continue to provide the critical mandated services which the state requires,  
and that citizens depend upon; and

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

Carried. Abstaining-Commissioner Freeman and Commissioner Keefe.