

COUNTY OF GOGEBIC
Board of Commissioners
Joe Bonovetz, Chairman

200 NORTH MOORE STREET
BESSEMER, MICHIGAN 49911
CLERK (906) 663-4518
FAX (906) 663-4660

GERRY R. PELISSERO
County Clerk-Register

CHIEF DEPUTY
Susan Mitchem

December 14, 2015

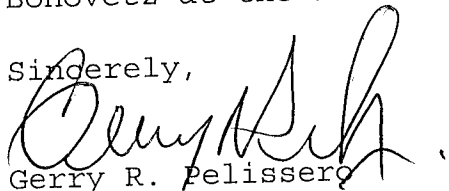
Michigan Association of Counties
935 N. Washington Ave.
Lansing, MI 48906

To whom it may concern,

At the December 9th, 2015 regular meeting of the Gogebic County Board of Commissioners a motion was made, supported and duly carried to adopt the enclosed resolution opposing House Bills 4947 through 4966.

If you have any questions, please contact Board Chairman Joe Bonovetz at the above address.

Sincerely,



Gerry R. Pelissero
Gogebic County Clerk-Register

**GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION 2015-10**

RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO HOUSE BILLS 4947 THROUGH 4966

WHEREAS, House Bills 4947 through 4966 would treat seventeen-year-olds as juveniles rather than adults;

WHEREAS, By changing state statutes to define seventeen-year-old defendants as eligible for services in the juvenile justice system, this places pressure on an already under-funded court system and constitutes an unfunded mandate on counties;

WHEREAS, According to the Michigan Department of Corrections, from 2003 to 2013, there were 19,118 seventeen year olds that went through the criminal court system; with additional offenders with lower level offenses not counted in those numbers.

WHEREAS, Gogebic County has concerns that the probate court system does not have the financial resources or capacity to handle a new population of offenders;

WHEREAS, Without additional state funding, Gogebic County could not absorb the costs of programming for this population in the juvenile system and services to younger offenders could be negatively affected.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Gogebic County Board of Commissioners hereby urges the Governor and Michigan Legislature to not pass House Bills 4947 through 4966 as written; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, a copy of this resolution is forwarded to Governor Snyder, Senator Casperson, Representative Dianda, and the Michigan Association of Counties.

ADOPTED 12/09/2015