



# Mason County Board of Commissioners

Courthouse  
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www.masoncounty.net

Charles Lange  
Chairman

## RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO HOUSE BILLS 4947 THROUGH 4966

Curtis S. VanderWall  
Vice Chairman

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

Cheryl Kelly  
County Clerk

**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; and

Fabian L. Knizacky  
Administrator

Wally Taranko  
District 1

**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; and

Bill Carpenter  
District 2

Charles Lange  
District 3

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

Curtis S. VanderWall  
District 4

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

Steven Hull  
District 5

Janet S. Andersen  
District 6

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason urges the Governor and Michigan Legislature to not pass House Bills 4947 through 4966 as written; and

Thomas M. Posma  
District 7

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

Moved for your approval.

I HEREBY CERTIFY this to be a true and correct copy of the record on file with the Mason County Clerk

This Certified Copy Only  
VALID When SEAL AND RED  
SIGNATURE Are Affixed.

*Cheryl Kelly*  
1-12-14

CHERYL KELLY  
MASON COUNTY CLERK