



Manistee County Board of Commissioners

Manistee County Courthouse • 415 Third Street • Manistee, Michigan 49660

CHAIRPERSON
Allan O'Shea
VICE-CHAIRPERSON
Janice McCraner

Kathy Fenstermacher
Edward Haik
Ervin Kowalski
Glenn Lottie
Carl Rutske

CLERK
Marilyn Kliber
(231) 723-3331
CONTROLLER/ADMINISTRATOR
Thomas Kaminski
(231) 398-3500

April 2, 2007



Michigan Association of Counties
P.O. Box 80078
Lansing, MI 48908-0078

RE: State of Michigan Public Safety Budget Reductions

Dear Michigan Association of Counties:

On Tuesday, March 20, 2007, the Manistee County Board of Commissioners unanimously voted to oppose State Public Safety budget reductions. These types of reductions severely affect Manistee County's efforts to protect the public safety and welfare of its residents and visitors.

Manistee County and its surrounding area, is currently experiencing population growth, which expands even larger during the summer months as a result of tourism. This growth places increased demand on public safety services which have already been reduced over the last several years. It is our understanding that the staffing level of State Troopers in Manistee County has been reduced from 16 to 11 over the last several years. During this time, traffic patterns have increased significantly, resulting mainly from the opening of a casino in Manistee County.

County government has made every effort to expand its services to meet the public safety demands being placed on it by the public. However, increased reductions at the State level have made these efforts futile. We are therefore strongly requesting that you please consider restoring public safety funding. Manistee County will continue to work cooperatively with State and local law enforcement officials to ensure that all funding is spent wisely and in the best interests of the public.

Michigan Association of Counties
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Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

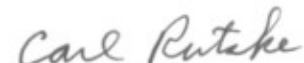
Sincerely,



B. Allan O'Shea, Chairperson
Manistee County Board of Commissioners



Janice McCraner, Vice-Chairperson
Manistee County Board of Commissioners



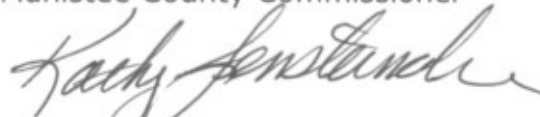
Carl Rutske,
Manistee County Commissioner



Ervin Kowalski,
Manistee County Commissioner



Edward Haik
Manistee County Commissioner



Kathy Fenstermacher
Manistee County Commissioner



Glenn Lottie
Manistee County Commissioner

cc: Michigan Townships Association
Dale Kowalkowski, Sheriff
Governor Jennifer M. Granholm
Senator Debbie Stabenow
Senator Carl Levin
Senator Michelle McManus
Representative David Palsrok
Representative Pete Hoekstra
George Cushingberry, Jr., Appropriations Committee Chair
Andy Dillon, Speaker of the House
Craig DeRoache, Minority Leader