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Montmorency County Board of Commissioners

RESOLUTION 20-01

RESOLUTION TO DECLARE MONTMORENCY COUNTY TO BE A SECOND AMENDMENT SANCTUARY

WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners of the County of Montmorency, State of Michigan, pursuant to Michigan statute, is vested with the authority of administering the affairs of the County government of Montmorency County, Michigan, and is organized as a body corporate with powers and immunities provided by law, and to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of Montmorency County and the employees of the Montmorency County government; and

WHEREAS, the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution, ratified in 1791 as part of the Bill of Rights, protects the right of the people to keep and bear arms; and

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court in District of Columbia v. Heller, 554 U.S. 570 (2009), affirmed an individual's right to possess a firearm, unconnected with the service in a militia, and to use that firearm for traditionally lawful purposes, such as self-defense within the home; and

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court in McDonald v. Chicago, 561 U.S. 742 (2010), affirmed that the right of an individual to "keep and bear arms," as protected under the Second Amendment, is incorporated to the States by the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, and

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court in United States v. Miller, 307 U.S. 174 (1939), opinioned that possession or use of a firearm that has some reasonable relationship to the preservation of a well-regulated militia is protected by the Second Amendment; and

WHEREAS, Article I, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution (1963) provides that "Every person has a right to keep and bear arms for the defense of himself and the state," and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of this Board to declare its support of the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution and to the provisions of the Michigan Constitution which protect Montmorency County citizen's individual rights to keep and bear arms; and

WHEREAS, each Montmorency County Commissioner, as provided by Article IX, Section I, of the Michigan Constitution (1963), took an oath to support the United States Constitution and the Michigan Constitution.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Montmorency County Board of Commissioners, that the County of Montmorency, Michigan, be, and hereby is, declared to be a "Second Amendment Sanctuary County."

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that this Board affirms its support for the Montmorency County Sheriff and the Montmorency County Prosecuting Attorney, in the exercise of their sound discretion to not enforce against any citizen an unconstitutional firearms law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board directs its staff to forward a copy of this resolution to the County's fellow elected officials, the Michigan State Legislature (House of Representatives and State Senators), and the Governor of Michigan.

This Resolution was adopted by the Montmorency County Board of Commissioners at a regular meeting held at the Montmorency County Board Chambers, Montmorency County Courthouse, Montmorency County, Michigan, by an affirmative vote of no less than three of the five members of the County Board of Commissioners who are elected and serving, on the 12th day of February, 2020.

This Resolution was offered by Commissioner Wagner and supported by Commissioner Peterson.

A roll call vote was taken, and this Resolution was passed by a vote of three to two.

Those Commissioners voting in favor of this resolution: Don Edwards, Dave Wagner, and Daryl Peterson.

Those Commissioners voting against this resolution: Gary Girardin, Albert LaFleche.

No Commissioners abstained from the vote.

The Resolution was declared adopted.

Montmorency County Board of Commissioners,

I, Cheryl Neilson, hereby certify that this is a true and accurate copy of the resolution adopted by the Montmorency County Board of Commissioners at their regular meeting held on February 12th, 2020.

Signed: _