

"Menominee County – Where the Best of Michigan Begins"

MENOMINEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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RESOLUTION 2020-16

RESOLUTION IN RESPONSE TO EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-77

WHEREAS, on May 7, 2020, Governor Whitmer issued Executive Order 2020-77, which extended the duration of the "Stay-At-Home" order to May 28, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Menominee County Board of Commissioners perceive that certain restrictions in the executive order violate the civil liberties of Michigan residents that are protected by the United States Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Michigan of 1963; and

WHEREAS, the Menominee County Board of Commissioners acknowledge that the COVID-19 virus has caused an unprecedented time in our history; however, even in the time of crisis the basic civil liberties and foundations of our society must be preserved with common sense legislative action; and

WHEREAS, Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790) stated "Any society that is willing to give up liberty for temporary security deserve neither and lose both"; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 2020-77 continues to take a "one size fits all" approach to COVID-19 in the State of Michigan; however, as has been seen time and time again, what works for the Lansing, Detroit, and other metropolitan areas does not necessarily translate into good public policy for the Upper Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, the Menominee County Board of Commissioners believe all businesses are "essential" because they provide for the livelihood of their employees, and the financial hardship to those that are laid off is substantial; and

WHEREAS, unemployment claims in Menominee County have increased 356% since the end of February 2020 due to the mandatory closing of many businesses that have been deemed "non-essential"; and

WHEREAS, the Menominee County Board of Commissioners believe that the State needs to allow businesses that can operate safely to reopen to mitigate the devastation that COVID-19 has already had on our economy and allow the residents of Menominee County to return to work; and

WHEREAS, the response to the COVID-19 virus must be balanced as not to make the collateral impacts more devastating and punitive than the virus itself; and

WHEREAS, the Menominee County Board of Commissioners support common sense approaches to combat the COVID-19 virus, such as: following social distancing recommendations, health screenings for employees and customers, promoting healthy hygienic practices, and encouraging individuals that are considered high risk to continue to self-quarantine and adhere to the strictest recommendations established by the Centers for Disease Control.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Menominee County Board of Commissioners call upon Governor Whitmer and the State of Michigan Legislature to immediately re-evaluate Executive Order 2020-77 to ensure the civil liberties of Michigan residents are not infringed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Menominee County Board of Commissioners call upon Governor Whitmer and the State of Michigan Legislature to immediately consider relaxing some restrictions allowing more people to return to their jobs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Menominee County Board of Commissioners call upon Governor Whitmer and the State of Michigan Legislature to end their unilateral, one size fits all approach, and to work with county and local governments in the fight against COVID-19 to ensure that measures put in place make sense for our communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be sent to Governor Whitmer, Senator Ed McBroom, Representative Beau LaFave, the Michigan Association of Counties, and to the Clerk of each County in the State of Michigan.

Roll call vote: AYES: 6 NAYS: 3

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.




Gerald Piche, Chairman

5/14/2020
Date

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) ss.
COUNTY OF MENOMINEE)

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of **Resolution 2020-16** adopted by the County Board of Commissioners at a regular meeting held on **May 12, 2020**, and I further certify that the public notice of such meeting was given as provided by law.



Marc Kleiman, Menominee County Clerk