

“Menominee County – Where the Best of Michigan Begins”

MENOMINEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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RESOLUTION – 2020-26

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL ESTABLISHING A TOURISM REINVESTMENT EXCISE TAX

WHEREAS, the Upper Peninsula has experienced a steady increase in tourism over the past several years, which is exemplified by a nearly 20% increase in tourism related spending in the Upper Peninsula between 2011 and 2017 as cited by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation; and

WHEREAS, while increased tourism spending results in positive economic impacts for the private sector and increased state tax revenue, local revenue growth remains far more restricted. Local revenue growth remains restricted to local property taxes, which modest increases are insufficient to cover additional expenses incurred due to increased tourism in Menominee County; and

WHEREAS, tourism results in measurable increased spending by local units of government to provide additional services. This is especially true for law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical services being provided. Menominee County is not only a destination for tourism in the Upper Peninsula, but also provides two main corridors of access to the rest of the Upper Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, Menominee County is a geographically large county, which already places strain on our emergency services. Additional requests for emergency services due to the growing number of visitors to Menominee County place an additional strain on an already burdened system; and

WHEREAS, it is undeniable that increased tourism has resulted in increased costs for emergency services and parks and recreation budget borne by local units of government with no recourse to raise additional revenue to cover these expenses; and

