

**Template for Resolution in Support of 4-year Commissioner Terms**

\_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS

**RESOLUTION # \_\_\_\_\_  
SUPPORTING PASSAGE OF LEGISLATION TO ADOPT 4-YEAR TERMS  
FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**WHEREAS** the 1963 Michigan Constitution stipulated four-year terms for the county Board of Supervisors, the preceding body to today's Board of Commissioners; and

**WHEREAS** the Legislature voted in 1966 to abolish Boards of Supervisors and formally replace them with Boards of Commissioners after the 1968 elections; and

**WHEREAS** Public Act 261 of 1966 promulgated that the length of terms for the new county commissioners shall be concurrent with that of state representatives, as specified in Article IV, section 3 of the Michigan Constitution; and

**WHEREAS** the scope of duties of a county commissioner has greatly increased in the last century — road patrols, indigent defense, mental health treatment and substance abuse prevention programming, solid waste pick-up and disposal, food and water supply safety, park operations, economic development efforts, emergency management and response; and

**WHEREAS** Michigan is one of only five states in the United States that provides for exclusively two-year terms for county commissioners; and

**WHEREAS** all other county and township elected officials in Michigan are elected to terms of at least four years; and

**WHEREAS** the position of county commissioner is a highly complex oversight role that requires years to master; and

**WHEREAS** legislation to amend state law to enact four-year terms has been filed in the form of Senate Bills 242 and 245; and

**WHEREAS** the Michigan Association of Counties supports the legislation as introduced;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY supports Senate Bills 242 and 245 to enact four-year terms for county commissioners.

**Adopted this** \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021