

## DRAFT RESOLUTION

### SUPPORTING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW STATE PSYCHIATRIC FACILITY IN TUSCOLA COUNTY TO REPLACE THE CURRENT CARO CENTER FACILITY

WHEREAS, Governor Snyder's recommended 2018 State Budget includes approximately \$115 million to replace the Caro Regional Center (facility) with a new State Psychiatric Facility (facility), and

WHEREAS, there is uncertainty as to whether or not the replacement facility will be located at the existing location in Tuscola County, and

WHEREAS, the facility is a vital economic engine of the entire region, employing approximately 360 people making it the second largest employer in Tuscola County, and

WHEREAS, relocation of the facility would have dramatic, devastating negative repercussions to businesses, schools and families living in communities throughout this region of the state, and

WHEREAS, the previous closure of State Prisons in this area already had a severely damaging impact to the local and regional economy, and

WHEREAS, this primarily rural region of the state is working to rebuild the economy from the great recession but cannot sustain the loss of a facility employing this number of residents on top of other problems that exist in most areas of the region such as: declining/aging population, school enrollment declines, declines in number employed and increasing number of people receiving public assistance, and

WHEREAS, in addition to its critical regional economic importance we believe the current facility location is the best for the state investment for several important reasons: it is accepted in the community, city infrastructure, available state land for construction, access to state highways and near medical providers, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners does hereby urge Governor Rick Snyder, Department of Health and Human Services Director Nick Lyon, and members of the State legislature to direct funding for the replacement of the Caro Regional Center to Tuscola County because it is the best location and to prevent the loss of 360 jobs which are critical to the economy and families of this region of the state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to Governor Rick Snyder, Department of Health and Human Services Director Nick Lyon, and members of the State legislature that represent this region of the state.