

2019-06

TUSCOLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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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 House Bills 4937-38 and Senate Bills 504-505; and,
- WHEREAS, the Michigan Association of Counties supports the legislation as introduced;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the **Tuscola County Board of Commissioners** supports House Bills 4937-38 and Senate Bills 504-505 to enact four-year terms for county commissioners.

Date 10-31-19



Thom Bardwell, Chairperson
Tuscola County Board of Commissioners

I, Jodi Fetting, Tuscola County Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners at its meeting on October 31, 2019.

Date October 31, 2019



Jodi Fetting
Tuscola County Clerk