

“Menominee County – Where the Best of Michigan Begins”

MENOMINEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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RESOLUTION – 2021-06

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A COLLECTIVE EFFORT BY MICHIGAN COUNTIES IN OPPOSING CURRENT AND FUTURE ORDERS UNILATERALLY ISSUED BY GOVERNOR WHITMER AND STATE AGENCIES IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

WHEREAS, Antrim County, Baraga County, Delta County, Grand Traverse County, Houghton County, and Kalkaska County have recently passed resolutions opposing orders unilaterally issued by Governor Whitmer and various state agencies in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Menominee County wishes to voice our solidarity with the other counties in the State of Michigan in opposing orders unilaterally issued by Governor Whitmer and various state agencies in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic; and

WHEREAS, 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; and

WHEREAS, Governor Whitmer and the various state agencies do not have authority to unilaterally impose orders that essentially equate into laws. This function is reserved by the Michigan Legislature and is essential to the checks and balances upon the three branches of government; and

WHEREAS, Menominee County acknowledges that there are differing opinions on the path to be taken in response to COVID-19; however, those debates and decisions are to be made by the legislators that have been duly elected by the People of the State of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the draconian orders that have been issued thus far throughout the pandemic have resulted in irreparable harm to the economy, education of youth, and mental health of residents in Menominee County; and

WHEREAS, Menominee County would like to gesture to other counties in the State of Michigan that Menominee County is an ally in any collective effort initiated to challenge the legality of the orders and restrictions issued by Governor Whitmer, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, or any other state agency that were unilaterally imposed without the approval of the Michigan Legislature; and

WHEREAS, Menominee County does not dismiss the seriousness of COVID-19; however, the response to the threat must be appropriate and justified. Unfortunately, the orders issued by Governor Whitmer and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services have resulted in, and are indicative of, inflicting future collateral damage to the local economy, small businesses, and families that far exceed the actual threat of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Menominee County supports common sense approaches to combat COVID-19, 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 calls upon the Michigan Legislature to fulfill their duty to the People of the State of Michigan and restore the checks and balances essential to our democracy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That we do not support the expenditure of county funds to enforce orders unilaterally imposed by Governor Whitmer and state agencies that do not have the authority of law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Menominee County Board of Commissioners support a collective action by the counties in the State of Michigan to challenge the legality of the orders and restrictions put forth unvirtuously in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic by the Executive Branch of Government in the State of Michigan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That a copy of this Resolution be sent to Governor Whitmer, Senator Ed McBroom, Representative Beau LaFave, the Michigan Senate, the Michigan House of Representatives, 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.



Larry Phelps, County Board Chairman

 2/9/2021
Date

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) ss.
COUNTY OF MENOMINEE)

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of **Resolution 2021-06** adopted by the County Board of Commissioners at a regular meeting held on **February 9, 2021**, and I further certify that the public notice of such meeting was given as provided by law.



Marc Kleiman, Menominee County Clerk