

OGEMAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE SENATE BILL 597 AND SENATE BILL 598

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 21-152
ADOPTED NOVEMBER 23, 2021**

WHEREAS, the Ogemaw County Board of Commissioners has entered into an enabling resolution to create the Au Sable Valley Community Mental Health Authority, pursuant to Section 100 et seq. and Section 205 of the Mental Health Code, 1974 PA 258, as amended (MCL330.1100 et seq; MCL330.1205); and

WHEREAS, Au Sable Valley Community Mental Health Authority is a community mental health authority of the County of Ogemaw, organized under the terms of Section 204(a) of the Michigan Mental Health Code (the Code), (MCL330.1204[a]); and

WHEREAS, Section 116(b) of the Code (MCL330.1116[b]) requires that the Department of Community Health shift primary responsibility for the direct delivery of public mental health services from the state to a community mental health services program whenever the community mental health services program has demonstrated a willingness and capacity to provide an adequate and appropriate system of mental health services for the citizens of that service area; and

WHEREAS, the Au Sable Valley Community Mental Authority has demonstrated such willingness and capacity to provide a broad array of innovative, cutting edge, community mental health services for many years and is properly certified as a community mental health services program under the terms of Section 232(a) of the Code (MCL330.1232[a]).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Ogemaw County Board of Commissioners strongly urges its State Senate and House of Representatives to oppose Senate Bill 597 and Senate Bill 598 which would privatize the public mental health system and essentially eliminate the public safety net.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ogemaw County Board of Commissioners supports the Au Sable Valley Community Mental Authority as a public behavioral health system that provides necessary community safety net services and supports.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be sent to Representative Daire Rendon, Senator Curt VanderWall, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Director Elizabeth Hertel, Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Administration Deputy Director Dr. George Mellos, Michigan Association of Counties and to the Clerk of each County in the State of Michigan.