

RESOLUTION

NO: [Title]

LIVINGSTON COUNTY

DATE: Click or tap to enter a date.

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**Resolution Opposing House Bills 4729, 4730, 4731, and 4732 Impacting Fees Charged for Official Records of the Treasurer and Register of Deeds – Treasurer/ Register of Deeds**

**WHEREAS,** Zillow, a for-profit corporation from Seattle, WA has been lobbying the Michigan Legislature to pass legislation that undermines the integrity of the Register of Deeds and Treasurers offices across the State of Michigan; and

**WHEREAS,** the legislation that Zillow is lobbying for would require Register of Deeds and Treasurer Offices across the state to provide for-profit corporations copies of any official records maintained by those offices at a significant discount or in some instances free of any charge. As a result, the taxpayers will be responsible for picking up the tab associated with maintaining and providing such records and the financial burden created by the loss of revenue for these offices; and

**WHEREAS,** if these Bills become law, Zillow and other for-profit corporations will have the ability to demand the manner in which the Register of Deeds and Treasurer must provide copies of official records; and

**WHEREAS,** if these Bills become law, they would impose new restrictions and limits on what Register of Deeds and Treasurer Offices can charge for data, and would burden Livingston County taxpayers with the cost to provide records to out-of-state entities and corporate organizations; and

**WHEREAS,** Zillow and other corporations will capitalize on selling publicly owned records, provided to them free of charge, while at the same time placing Michigan/Livingston County residents at a higher risk of fraud and theft; and

**WHEREAS,** The Michigan Association of County Treasurers and the Michigan Association of Register of Deeds, both bipartisan organizations, unanimously oppose these bills.

**THEREFORE, IT BE RESOLVED** that the Livingston County Board of Commissioners OPPOSE Michigan House Bills 4729, 4730, 4731 & 4732, as private corporations should not benefit financially from public records at the expense of Livingston County taxpayers; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Michigan Association of Counties, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Senate Majority Leader and the Governor of the State of Michigan.

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