



# BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Gogebic County

200 N. Moore St.

Bessemer, Michigan 49911

## GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RESOLUTION # 2022-7

### *RESOLUTION OPPOSING MICHIGAN HOUSE BILLS 4729, 4730, 4731, & 4732*

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

**WHEREAS**, the legislation that Zillow is lobbying for would require Register of Deeds and Treasurer Office across the State of Michigan 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 for providing these 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 parcel cards, and would burden Michigan 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 residents at a higher risk for fraud and theft; and

**WHEREAS**, the Michigan Association of Counties, Michigan Association of County Treasurers, Michigan Association of County Clerks, Michigan Association of Register of Deeds, and the Michigan Municipal League are united in opposing Michigan House Bills 4729, 4730, 4731, & 4732.

District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	District 6	District 7
Dan Siirila	Tom Laabs	Jim Byrns Vice Chair	Jim Lorensen Chair	Joe Bonovetz	Bob Orlich	George Peterson III

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Gogebic 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 Michigan taxpayers; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this Resolution be sent to Governor Gretchen Whitmer, Speaker of the Michigan House of Representatives, Majority Leader of the Michigan Senate, the Michigan Association of Counties, Michigan Association of County Treasurers, Michigan Association of County Clerks, Michigan Association of Register of Deeds, and the Michigan Municipal League.

Adopted this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2022

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YEAS:

5

NAYS:

0

ABSENT:

2



JAMES A. LORENSON

Chairman

District 1

District 2

District 3

District 4

District 5

District 6

District 7

Dan Siirila

Tom Laabs

Jim Byrns  
Vice Chair

Jim Lorensen  
Chair

Joe Bonovetz

Bob Orlich

George Peterson III

STATE OF MICHIGAN)

) SS

COUNTY OF GOGEBIC)

I, Ramona L. Collins, Clerk of the County of Gogebic, and the Gogebic County Board of Commissioners, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted by the Board at a regular meeting on June 8, 2022.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of the County of Gogebic, on this 23rd day of June, 2022 at Bessemer, Michigan.



Ramona L. Collins  
Ramona L. Collins

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Dan Siirila	Tom Laabs	Jim Byrns Vice Chair	Jim Lorensen Chair	Joe Bonovetz	Bob Orlich	George Peterson III