

Ontonagon County Board of Commissioners

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Resolution 2023-11 **State of Michigan Sanitary Code Resolution**

Whereas, there are currently pending in the Michigan Legislature certain bills, SB 299, SB300, HB 4479 & HB 4480, which would impose statewide regulations for the implementation of and maintenance of septic systems; and

Whereas, these bills as presently drafted, would require inspection of all systems every five years and would impose much greater expenses and work hours on local public health departments; and

Whereas, the bills would dramatically increase the requirements for septic inspectors and make it much more difficult to find, hire & retain qualified personnel; and

Whereas, the current legislation does not provide a permanent, secure funding mechanism to cover these increased costs, which will invariably be shifted to our local health departments, and

Whereas, the Ontonagon County Board of Commissioners recognizes the critical importance of protecting the Michigan's water resources, including groundwater, lakes & streams, and other surface waters, but concludes that the bills do not provide a sustainable or financially feasible solution in areas that do not have the benefit of municipal sanitary systems; and

Whereas, soil types vary considerably throughout Michigan making it difficult to establish generalized "one size fits all" rules for septic systems.

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Ontonagon County Board of Commissioners opposes SB299, SB300, HB 4479 and HB4480 as introduced and urges the Michigan Legislature to consider the costs to local health departments before adopting changes to the septic provisions of the Michigan Public Health Code.

Therefore, Be it Further Resolved, that this resolution shall be forwarded to all Michigan counties, Michigan Assn of Counties, members of the Michigan Legislature and to other stakeholders.



Carl Nykanen, Chair
Ontonagon County Board of Commissioners

7/18/2023

Date