

RESOLUTION
SUPPORTING THE PROTECT MI KIDS BILL PACKAGE
04112024 – PMK

Whereas, tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable death and disability in Michigan and contributes greatly to heart disease, cancer, and stroke; and

Whereas, Michigan is one of only ten states that does not require retailers to obtain a license to sell tobacco making effective enforcement almost impossible; and

Whereas, Senate Bills 651 and 652 seek to establish a statewide Tobacco Retail Licensing (TRL) program, requiring all establishments selling nicotine or tobacco products to obtain a license, thereby enhancing compliance with existing tobacco sales regulations, and reducing youth initiation to nicotine and tobacco; and

Whereas, Senate Bill 647 aims to repeal preemption provisions that prohibit local governments from enacting ordinances and regulations pertaining to the sale or licensure of tobacco products, empowering local communities to implement tailored tobacco control measures to protect their residents, and particularly their youth; and

Whereas, Michigan currently has no state tax on e-cigarettes or vaping products that contain nicotine and has not increased its tax on cigarettes in nearly 20 years; and

Whereas, Michigan spends less than 10% of the recommended amount on tobacco prevention programs as set by the Centers for Disease Control; and

Whereas, Senate Bill 648 proposes to establish a new tax on e-cigarettes and increase taxes on cigarettes and other tobacco products, with revenue generated dedicated to tobacco prevention and cessation programs, tax enforcement, and enforcement of smoke-free air laws, aligning with evidence-based strategies to reduce tobacco use, especially among youth; and

Whereas, flavored tobacco products play a key role in youth initiation and continued use of tobacco. More than 80% of 12 – 17-year-olds who have ever used a tobacco product start with a flavored product. 67% of youth have reported using these products “because they come in flavors [they] like.” More than 72% of current tobacco users surveyed have reported using a flavored tobacco product in the past month; and

Whereas, Senate Bills 649 and 650 are intended to prohibit the sale of flavored tobacco products including flavored e-cigarettes and menthol-flavored cigarettes, recognizing the significant role flavors play in driving youth initiation to tobacco and nicotine products; and

Whereas, Minors can be criminally charged for attempting to purchase, use, or possess tobacco products and research shows that penalizing children is not an effective strategy for reducing youth smoking; and

Whereas, Senate Bills 653 and 654 repeal provisions in the Youth Tobacco Act that impose civil and criminal penalties on minors for purchasing, using, or possessing tobacco products.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Crawford County Board of Commissioners support the Protect MI Kids Bill Package and urge the Michigan Legislature to swiftly pass these critical bills to protect the health and well-being of Michigan’s children and youth; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be forwarded to Governor Gretchen Whitmer, Senator Michele Hoytenga, Representative Ken Borton, the Michigan Association of Counties and all other 82 counties in the state of Michigan.

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Commissioner Jamison	Yes	Commissioner Kraycs	Absent
Commissioner Frederick	Yes	Commissioner Powers	Yes
Commissioner Goscicki	Yes	Commissioner Jansen	Absent
	Commissioner Lewis	Yes	

ADOPTED DATE: April 11, 2024

I, Jamie McClain, Clerk of the Crawford County Board of Commissioners and Clerk of the County of Crawford, do hereby certify that the above Resolution was duly adopted by the said Board on April 11, 2024.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said County and Court at Grayling, Michigan, on this 11th day of April, 2024.


Laurie Jamison, Chair
Crawford County Board of Commissioners


Jamie L. McClain
Clerk/ROD