

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS POLICY  
TO MONITOR AND DOCUMENT CONTACTS BETWEEN UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS AND  
THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

OCTOBER 2, 2024

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County is committed to promoting inclusivity, fairness, and respect for all individuals, regardless of their immigration status; and

WHEREAS, Livingston County's resolution to monitor and document interactions between undocumented immigrants and its Sheriff's Office is more of a politically driven effort to promote scapegoating and division than it is an attempt to solve a real problem; and

WHEREAS, this policy perpetuates harmful stereotypes about immigrant communities, creating unnecessary fear and distrust while diverting attention from more pressing public safety needs and issues; and

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County has made it clear through its policies and actions that it rejects any form of discrimination, racial profiling, or targeting of individuals based on their immigration status, and instead aims to foster a safe and welcoming environment for all residents; and

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County and Livingston County are not comparable in population size or make-up, economic status, public assets, legislative priorities, education level or any other marker that would warrant comparison and as such, is not an appropriate benchmark by which Livingston County should measure itself; and

WHEREAS, the focus on immigration as a cause of crime ignores factual data and expert analysis, which show that immigrant communities, including undocumented immigrants, contribute positively to local economies and public safety, with no statistically significant link between immigration and increased crime rates; and

WHEREAS, Livingston County resolution 2024-09-128 cites data from "Crimegrades.org" which on their own About Our Data webpage states both "While we believe the data to be accurate, sometimes accurate data can lead people to false conclusions" and "Looking at a map of total crimes can be misleading"; and

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County believes in evidence-based policymaking that enhances community trust in law enforcement rather than undermining it through divisive and politically motivated actions.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners strongly opposes Livingston County Board of Commissioners Resolution 2024-09-128 to monitor and document contacts between undocumented immigrants and law enforcement. This policy is antithetical to the values and beliefs of Washtenaw County and serves only to create division and fear without addressing real public safety concerns.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED Washtenaw County will continue to stand by its commitment to protect and support all its residents, regardless of immigration status, and calls on neighboring communities to focus on fostering unity and cooperation for all members of their community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners directs the County Clerk to send a copy of this resolution as a communication to other Michigan Counties.

| COMMISSIONER | Y | N | A | COMMISSIONER | Y | N | A | COMMISSIONER | Y | N | A |
|--------------|---|---|---|--------------|---|---|---|--------------|---|---|---|
| Beeman       | X |   |   | Maciejewski  | X |   |   | Somerville   | X |   |   |
| Hodge        | X |   |   | Rabhi        | X |   |   |              |   |   |   |
| LaBarre      | X |   |   | Sanders      | X |   |   |              |   |   |   |
| Lyte         | X |   |   | Scott        | X |   |   |              |   |   |   |

CLERK/REGISTER'S CERTIFICATE - CERTIFIED COPY

ROLL CALL VOTE:

9 0 0

STATE OF MICHIGAN )

I, Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register of said County of Washtenaw and Clerk of Circuit Court for said County, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners at a session held at the County Administration Building in the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan, on October 2, 2024, as it appears of record in my office.

COUNTY OF WASHTENAW) <sup>SS.</sup>

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court at Ann Arbor, this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October 2024.

LAWRENCE KESTENBAUM, Clerk/Register

BY: Ashlyn Poole

Deputy Clerk



Res. No. 24-194