

# Iosco County Board of Commissioners

COURT HOUSE  
Tawas City, Michigan 48763  
989-362-4212

## RESOLUTION 2024-195

**DATE: November 20, 2024**

**THE HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:**

**WHEREAS, The Region 9 Area Agency on Aging has served the twelve-county region of Northeast Michigan as the primary provider of options counseling, State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) and Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Program for this community, serving a twelve- county region of Northeast Michigan, including Iosco County.**

**WHEREAS, every year, the Region 9 Area Agency on Aging and their partners in each county help Senior Citizens make some of the most important decisions of their lives. These decisions have a profound impact on their health and financial well-being.**

**WHEREAS, Iosco County opposes bidding out these important services and keeping them within the appropriate Area Agencies on Aging.**

**WHEREAS, recently the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, ACLS Bureau bid out these services. This change will harm those served by the system. The Iosco County Board of Commissioners opposes these proposals because:**

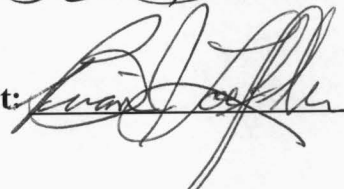
- **The Area Agencies on Aging have spent years building an infrastructure of trained counselors and building relationships in their communities and in the SHIP and MIPPA programs;**
- **This infrastructure would be lost if the bids were in favor of other entities,**
- **Beneficiaries could lose access to local counselors that they are familiar with and trust;**
- **SHIP and MIPPA programs are currently serving our Medicare and Medicaid participants without a profit motive or bias towards a particular insurance product, that impartiality could be lost in this scenario; and**

**WHEREAS, having come through a recent pandemic, and currently dealing with further results of the pandemic, this is no time for a major upheaval of the trusted Counselors and institutions some of our most vulnerable populations depend on; and**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Commissioners of the County of Iosco, request that our policy makers continue to utilize the already built and existing infrastructure found in our Area Agencies on Aging. These trusted resources have served our communities well. Bidding out these services would destroy years of work, investment, and relationship building.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to Governor Gretchen Whitmer, State Senator Michele Hoytenga, State Representative Mike Hoadley, the Michigan Association of Counties (MAC), and the other 82 Michigan counties.**

Move: 

Support: 

Roll Call: Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Absent: 1