

RESOLUTION
DESIGNATING LAPEER COUNTY AS A
“FREEDOM TO HOMESCHOOL” COUNTY
RESOLUTION NO. 2024-R03

- WHEREAS,** it is the parent(s) fundamental right to direct the upbringing and education of ***their children***, this right is protected by the U.S. Constitution and Michigan Constitution; and,
- WHEREAS,** Article VIII, Section 1 of the Michigan Constitution states: “Religion, morality and knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged”; and,
- WHEREAS,** Section 380.10 of the Michigan Revised School Code states: “It is the natural, fundamental right of parents and legal guardians to determine and direct the care, teaching, and education of their children”; and,
- WHEREAS,** parental rights include, however are not limited to, making decisions regarding children’s education and health care in a manner consistent with their family values, and parents must do so to promote ***their*** children’s general health and well-being as well as their right to direct the education of ***their*** child, be it public, homeschooling, private or parochial education; and,
- WHEREAS,** according to the U.S. Supreme Court, the Due Process Clause of the 14th Amendment protects parental rights. The U.S. Supreme Court has repeatedly affirmed that they are fundamental rights; and,
- WHEREAS,** parents have every right to seek accountability, choice, and transparency in ***their children’s*** education, and that Government officials must be held accountable for what’s promoted to children; and,
- WHEREAS,** no single form of education can meet the needs of all students or families; and,
- WHEREAS,** the lower a student-to-teacher ratio is, the greater the ability to individualize education for an individual student becomes, as well as a better outcome; and,
- WHEREAS,** Homeschooling offers profound flexibility in how education is delivered to students, as well as open ended opportunities to customize and individualize education around learning styles, interests, moral and religious beliefs and life goals of the student; and,
- WHEREAS** no teacher or institution can know or love a child more than a child’s parent(s); and,
- WHEREAS** Statistics show that Homeschooled students have consistently shown above-average results on all standardized tests and are likely to be at least one grade ahead of public-school students; and,
- WHEREAS,** State Superintendent Michael Rice has asked the Michigan Legislature for a Homeschool Registry. This is a violation of Parental rights and privacy that would result in placing barriers that would have an intimidating adverse effect while placing obstacles and unnecessary restrictions on those wishing to Homeschool their children in Lapeer County; and,
- WHEREAS,** Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel has stated she supports “monitoring” the private homes of Homeschoolers to inspect their private properties, a blatant violation of our 4th amendment rights.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Lapeer County Board of Commissioners, that the County of Lapeer, Michigan, be, and hereby is, declared to be a "Freedom to Homeschool County," and,

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that this board affirms its full support for the right of parent(s) to educate ***their children***, and that freedom of educational choice will lead to the best possible outcome for each individual student.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lapeer County Board of Commissioners call upon our Lapeer County Sheriff and Lapeer County Prosecutor to defend our 4th amendment constitutional rights on this matter and specifically any efforts by the those outside our county that may result in any attempt to force warrantless searches of the homes and properties of Homeschool families.

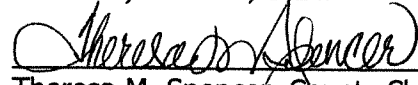
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lapeer County Board of Commissioners shall not authorize or appropriate new funding, resources, employees, agencies, contractors, buildings, detention centers or offices for the sole purpose of enforcing any statute, law, rule, order, or regulation that restricts the rights of parents to Homeschool ***their children***.

BE IT FURTHER ESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be sent to Governor Gretchen Whitmer, Michigan State Senators; Ruth Johnson and Kevin Daley, Michigan State Representatives; Greg Alexander, Phil Green, Jamie Greene and the other 82 County Board of Commissions in the State of Michigan, U.S. Congress Representative, Lisa McClain, U.S. Senators; Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow, Lapeer County Sheriff Scott McKenna, Lapeer County Prosecuting Attorney John Miller, and all County Department Directors.



Tom Kohlman, Chairman of the Board

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by a roll call vote at the meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Lapeer, State of Michigan, on this 28th day of March, 2024.



Theresa M. Spencer, County Clerk
Clerk of the Board