

S T A T E O F M I C H I G A N

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS—URGE STATE COURT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE TO COVER VISITING JUDGE EXPENSES

WHEREAS, the 48th Circuit Court Administrator recently received retirement notice from Chief Circuit Court Judge Roberts Kengis; and

WHEREAS, the retirement will leave a vacancy in one of the legislatively approved and funded positions of Circuit Court Judge in Allegan County; and

WHEREAS, until such time as an appointment is made by the State, that position must be filled with a visiting judge; and

WHEREAS, the 48th Circuit Court sent the State Court Administrative Office's (SCAO) a letter for consideration of payment of all expenses for the visiting judge and was denied; and

WHEREAS, while the local funding unit understands that Section 10 of the SCAO's Judicial Assignments Procedure states, "All salaries and expenses for visiting judges shall be paid from the local court's budget," the County interprets this to be under discretionary circumstances and not when a legislatively approved and budgeted position is vacant pending the State's appointment.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that since the SCAO receives the funds for the salary of each approved judge, Allegan County, as the local funding unit, urges that State allocated budgeted funds be utilized to directly pay for the expenses of a visiting judge while the appointment process is being carried out, or that the 48th Circuit Court be reimbursed for such expenditures; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk is instructed to forward a copy of this resolution to all nine Allegan County's legislative representatives and the Executive Director of the Michigan Association of Counties.