

RESOLUTION
OPPOSING THE FY 2025 GOVERNOR’S RECOMMENDED BUDGET REDUCING
OPERATIONAL FUNDING FOR THE MICHIGAN CONSERVATION DISTRICTS AND THE
ELIMINATION OF LOCAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE MICHIGAN AGRICULTURE
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSURANCE PROGRAM (MAEAP)
06132024 – CD-MAEAP

Whereas, Governor Whitmer’s Executive Budget Recommendations for the fiscal year 2025 budget includes a \$1,000,000 budget reduction to Michigan Conservation Districts within the budget of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development; and

Whereas, the FY 2025 budget recommendation also recommended the termination of local Conservation District Technicians who administer the Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program and replace them with 24 State employees; and

Whereas, this recommendation undermines the local conservation delivery system led by the local Conservation Districts covering all of Michigan’s 83 counties, using the voluntary, non-regulatory, educational approach used across the country to address natural resource concerns at the local level; and

Whereas, PA 297 of 1937 established Conservation District’s as local units of State Government to work with landowners in every county to address natural resource concerns. These districts are driven by a five member, publicly elected Board of Directors. These Boards establish conservation priorities based upon local needs and work voluntarily with landowners to address these critical natural resource concerns. This is the only organization that can do this on private land with the trust of the landowner; and

Whereas, Michigan Conservation Districts have been critically underfunded for decades leading to high employee turnover which undermines the success of programs and the ability to administer assistance to the public; and

Whereas, Michigan cannot effectively allocate federal funds from the Inflation Reduction Act and Title II of the Farm Bill due to the lack of funding provided by the State of Michigan. This leaves critical Federal dollars on the table that become reallocated to other States that can more effectively deliver Farm Bill dollars.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Crawford County Board of Commissioners requests that the FY 2025 budget maintain the operational budget for the Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) at its current capacity with the local technicians employed by the Conservation Districts; and

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED, That the Crawford County Board of Commissioners implores the Legislature of the State of Michigan to properly fund Michigan Conservation Districts and work with MDARD and the Michigan Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) to find or develop a restricted funding source to provide Conservation Districts with an annual allocation of \$13,000,000.

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.

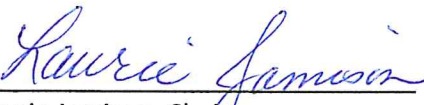
APPROVED AS TO FORM

Commissioner Jamison	Absent	Commissioner Kraycs	Yes
Commissioner Frederick	Yes	Commissioner Powers	absent
Commissioner Goscicki	Yes	Commissioner Moore	Yes
	Commissioner Lewis	Yes	

ADOPTED DATE: June 13, 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 June 13, 2024.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said County and Court at Grayling, Michigan, on this 13th day of June, 2024.



Laurie Jamison, Chair
Crawford County Board of Commissioners



Jamie L. McClain
Clerk/ROD

CERTIFIED COPY OF RECORD

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS.
County of Genesee)

I, **DOMONIQUE CLEMONS**, County Clerk/Register of the County of Genesee, Michigan, and Clerk of the Genesee County Board of Commissioners, and Clerk of the Circuit Court for said County, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of Resolution with original record thereof now remaining in my office, and that the attached is a true and correct copy therefrom, and of the whole of such original record.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and affixed the seal of said Court and County, this 17th day of June 2024.



DOMONIQUE CLEMONS, Clerk/Register

GENESEE COUNTY BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Resolution No.: 2024-617
Date Adopted: 6/12/2024



Genesee County

Genesee County
Administration Building
1101 Beach St
Flint, MI 48502

Legislation Text

File #: RES-2024-617, Version: 1

TO THE HONORABLE CHAIRPERSON AND MEMBERS OF THE GENESEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, GENESEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

WHEREAS, Genesee County supports the fundamental and foundational belief that all people are created equal; and

WHEREAS, Genesee County recognizes that our society and our community has not always fulfilled this commitment; and

WHEREAS, members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) community are among those where America's promise of equal treatment under the law has not always been practiced and is not yet fulfilled; and

WHEREAS, the members of the LGBTQ community are deserving of the same respect and fair treatment desired for all human beings; and

WHEREAS, Genesee County is filled with LGBTQ residents from all walks of life, from every occupation, field, and industry, and residing in every part of the County, who add significant value to our community's quality of life each and every day; and

WHEREAS, Pride Month is celebrated locally, in Michigan, nationally, and worldwide as a reminder that the LGBTQ community continues to face unequal treatment and discrimination in both law and custom; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan, of which Genesee County is the fifth largest county, recently amended its Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act to include protections for the LGBTQ community in our state; and

WHEREAS, Genesee County recognizes the economic and cultural benefits of diversity and seeks to create a welcoming environment for all residents, including the LGBTQ community; and

WHEREAS, Genesee County, through its Harassment/Discrimination Policy "will not tolerate harassment and discrimination of its employees... based on ...sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression..."

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Genesee County Board of County Commissioners designates the month of June 2024, as Pride Month in Genesee County, Michigan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Genesee County Board of County Commissioners directs the Genesee County Clerk/Register to forward copies of this resolution to the other 82

counties in Michigan as well as the Genesee County delegation of the State Legislature.