

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES' PLAN TO IMPLEMENT A COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT  
PROCESS FOR PREPAID INPATIENT HEALTH PLANS

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

JUNE 4, 2025

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan currently operates a publicly managed and community-based system for the delivery of specialty behavioral health services through 10 Prepaid Inpatient Health Plans (PIHPs), which are responsible for managing Medicaid mental health, developmental disability, and substance use disorder services; and

WHEREAS, the current PIHP system has consistently demonstrated value, local accountability, and community engagement, while successfully managing costs and improving health outcomes for vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) recently announced plans to initiate a competitive procurement process for the management of PIHP functions, which may open the door to private, non-profit health plans or managed care organizations (MCOs) assuming control over behavioral health services; and

WHEREAS, such privatization could disrupt longstanding relationships between local mental health authorities, providers, and the communities they serve, and jeopardize the person-centered, recovery-oriented approach that has been cultivated under the public system; and

WHEREAS, many stakeholders, including individuals receiving services, advocates, local officials, and providers have expressed significant concerns about the potential impact of a competitive procurement process on care quality, access, local control, and transparency; and

WHEREAS, counties across Michigan have historically played a vital role in the governance, funding, and oversight of the public behavioral health system, and any change to that structure without meaningful county input undermines the principle of local governance; and

WHEREAS, maintaining a publicly accountable and locally governed behavioral health system is essential to ensuring that individuals with mental health and substance use needs receive timely, appropriate, and high-quality care.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners formally opposes the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' (MDHHS) plan to implement a competitive procurement process for Prepaid Inpatient Health Plans (PIHPs); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board urges Governor Whitmer, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), and the Michigan Legislature to halt any plans for privatization and instead work collaboratively with counties, PIHPs, Community Mental Health Services Programs (CMHSPs), service users, and other stakeholders to strengthen and improve the public behavioral health system, by only allowing public organizations with experience in managing Michigan's public mental health system to be part of any bid process should one occur; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners directs the County Clerk to send a copy of this resolution to the Washtenaw County delegation of both the Michigan Senate and House of Representatives; Governor Gretchen Whitmer; and 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:

8 0 1

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 June 4, 2025 it appears of record in my office. In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court at Ann Arbor, this 4<sup>th</sup> day of June 2025.

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

LAWRENCE KESTENBAUM, Clerk/Register

BY: Ashlyn Poole  
Deputy Clerk

Res. No. 25-123

