

10-081  
August 10, 2010

**TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:**

**WHEREAS**, the police departments throughout the state of Michigan depend, in part, upon part-time law enforcement officers for protection of the citizens and community, and

**WHEREAS**, the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES) adopted an administrative rule mandating that police officers must work a minimum of 520 hours to remain certified, and

**WHEREAS**, the opposition to this 520 hour rule has been overwhelming, widespread, and near unanimous, and

**WHEREAS**, the current law (with no hourly standard) has worked for more than 45 years, and the proposed 520 hour rule is being implemented with no legitimate stated and valid purpose, and

**WHEREAS**, an organized movement of Police Chiefs has successfully lobbied for legislation to set the minimum hour standard at 120 hours, as described in Senate Bill 449, and

**WHEREAS**, the 120 hour compromise is equal to the **only other hourly certification standard** in the nation, being the State of Idaho, and

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill 449 passed on June 25, 2009 on a bi-partisan and unanimous vote of 34 to 0, and

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill 449 has languished in the House Judiciary Committee since June 25, 2009, without being sent to the floor for a vote, and

**WHEREAS**, failure of the House to pass Senate Bill 449, as written, will cause an unfunded mandate when County Sheriffs have to fill the void of local departments cutting officers, the loss of local control, as well as the loss of more police officers from our streets.

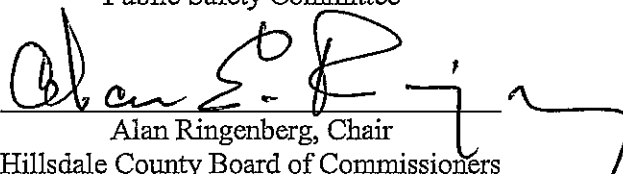
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Hillsdale County Board of Commissioners hereby calls upon the House of Representatives to swiftly pass Senate Bill 449, as written.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution be sent by the Hillsdale County Clerk, once adopted, to the Speaker of the House, as well as to the 82 other county boards of commissioners, requesting that they adopt said resolution and send it to the Speaker of the House.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Parke Hayes

Public Safety Committee

  
Alan Ringenberg, Chair  
Hillsdale County Board of Commissioners

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON AUGUST 10, 2010.