

VAN BUREN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION MOTION REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

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 Sheriff's 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 Van Buren 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 Van Buren 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.

Signed: Donald A. Hanson
Mike Roth
Richard Freestone
Mark A. Lee
Ronald G. Goffey
Susan Hammond
Thomas P. Erdman

Date: July 27, 2010

FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

MOTION BY: Hanson

CARRIED

SECONDED BY: Hammond

NOT CARRIED