

TUSCOLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO HOUSE BILLS 4947 THROUGH 4966

WHEREAS, House Bills 4947 through 4966 would treat seventeen-year-olds as juveniles rather than adults; and

WHEREAS, by changing state statutes to define seventeen-year-old defendants as eligible for services in the juvenile justice system, this places pressure on an already under-funded court system and constitutes an unfunded mandate on counties; and

WHEREAS, according to the Michigan Department of Corrections, from 2003 to 2013, there were 19,118 seventeen-year-olds that went through the criminal court system; with additional offenders with lower level offenses not counted in those numbers; and

WHEREAS, Tuscola County has concerns that the Probate Court system does not have the financial resources or capacity to handle a new population of offenders; and

WHEREAS, without additional state funding, Tuscola County could not absorb the costs of programming for this population in the juvenile system and services to younger offenders could be negatively affected.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners hereby urges the Governor and Michigan Legislature to not pass House Bills 4947 through 4966 as written.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution is forwarded to Governor Snyder, Senator Green, Representative Canfield and the Michigan Association of Counties.

Date _____

Thom Bardwell, Chairperson
Tuscola County Board of Commissioners

I, Jodi Fetting, Tuscola County Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners at its regular meeting on December 17, 2015.

Date December 17, 2015



Jodi Fetting
Tuscola County Clerk