

CLINTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Administrator
Craig Longnecker
Clerk of the Board
Diane Zuker

RESOLUTION 2021-3 SUPPORTING PASSAGE OF LEGISLATION TO ADOPT 4-YEAR TERMS FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the 1963 Michigan Constitution stipulated four-year terms for county Boards of Supervisors, the preceding body to today's Boards of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature voted in 1966 to abolish Boards of Supervisors and formally replace them with Boards of Commissioners after the 1968 election; and

WHEREAS, Public Act 261 of 1966 promulgated that the length of terms for the new county commissioners shall be concurrent with that of state representatives, as specified in Article IV, section 3 of the Michigan Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the scope of county government responsibilities has greatly increased in the last century — road patrols, indigent defense, mental health treatment and substance abuse prevention programming, solid waste pick-up and disposal, food and water supply safety, park operations, economic development efforts, emergency management and response; and

WHEREAS, Michigan is one of only five states in the United States that provides for exclusively two-year terms for county commissioners; and

WHEREAS, all other county and township elected officials in Michigan are elected to terms of at least four years; and

WHEREAS, the position of county commissioner is a highly complex oversight role that requires years to master; and

WHEREAS, legislation to amend state law to enact four-year terms has been filed in the form of Senate Bills 242 and 245; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Association of Counties supports the legislation as introduced.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Clinton County supports Senate Bills 242 and 245 to enact four-year terms for county commissioners.

STATE OF MICHIGAN

COUNTY OF CLINTON

I, DIANE ZUKER, Clerk of the County of Clinton do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Clinton County Board of Commissioners at the regular meeting held March 30, 2021 and is on file in the records of this office.

Diane Zuker, Clinton County Clerk