

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN AND THE MICHIGAN ATTORNEY GENERAL INVESTIGATE THE LAWFULNESS OF THE TEN MILLION DOLLAR GRANT TO SALEM TOWNSHIP, AND THAT THE GOVERNOR WITHOLD THE FUNDS

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

February 20, 2019

Whereas many needs of the people of Washtenaw County remain insufficiently funded by the State of Michigan, not limited to but including mental health care, roads, schools and environmental protections;

Whereas late last year, after the November general election the Michigan State Legislature passed a \$379.6 million supplemental appropriations bill, PA 618 of 2018, which was signed by former Governor Rick Snyder;

Whereas a provision providing for a \$10 million grant to Salem Township “to encourage economic development and future growth of the urban services” was contained in the legislation;

Whereas the provision had no written sponsor;

Whereas the duly elected Board of Trustees of Salem Township did not request the grant;

Whereas the normal legislative process was not followed;

Whereas the Legislature did not conduct public hearings on PA 618 of 2018 before the bill passed just before sunrise;

Whereas the content of PA 618 of 2018 became public only several hours before the legislature passed the bill;

Whereas the public benefit of the grant has not been demonstrated;

Whereas the proceeds of the grant seem to benefit a private company or individual and not the greater community;

Whereas the Supervisor of Superior Township has stated that the expected use of these funds will harm Superior Township;

Whereas the Constitution of the State of Michigan states that an appropriation is not a mandate to spend;

Whereas the administration of the Governor of the State of Michigan has stated that it will block the payout of the \$10million;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners respectfully requests the Governor of Michigan and the Michigan Attorney General to investigate the lawfulness of the "grant" to Salem Township and to withhold payment of the \$10 million if it be legal to do so;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners respectfully requests that this money be used for a legitimate public purpose;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners will send this resolution to the Governor of the State of Michigan, the Attorney General of the State of Michigan, state representatives and senators.