

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners, held at the Chippewa County Courthouse, 319 Court St., Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan on the 21st day of December, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Scott Shackleton, Don McLean, Jim Martin, Conor Egan and Rudy Johnson

**ABSENT:** None

The following preamble and resolution was offered by Commissioner Egan and seconded by Commissioner McLean.

**15-34**

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING HB 4138 (H-4), PRESUMPTIVE PAROLE**

**WHEREAS**, Chippewa County will not support violent felons being released on parole without a full and detailed evaluation by an educated and experienced parole board. Violent felons should not be presumed eligible for parole at their earliest prison release date.

**WHEREAS**, Chippewa County recognizes that 23% of parolees and 24% of probationers are rearrested within one year of release from supervision and 50% of offenders entering prison are sentenced for violating probation or parole. See: Michigan Department of Corrections, 2013 Statistical Report.

**WHEREAS**, The above mentioned statistics show that public safety is compromised by the early release of convicted felons.

**WHEREAS**, The above mentioned statistics also show that the probation and parole systems are currently underfunded and could not handle an additional influx of probationer or parolees.

**WHEREAS**, It is also apparent that without investment in front-end probation and parole services, the cycle of jail and prison will not end, and local communities will continue to see the negative consequences of repeat offenders that have not been adequately rehabilitated.

**WHEREAS**, Chippewa County has not been directly affected by parolees imported to our community by way of contracts with the Michigan Department of Corrections and opportunist landlords, as has Delta County. These low-income housing units in Delta County are minimally maintained. The units have been established in our historic residential and business districts and overall have caused public safety and property value issues in these neighborhoods. Additional fast tracks to parole would continue to have this affect on the Delta County community and across the state.

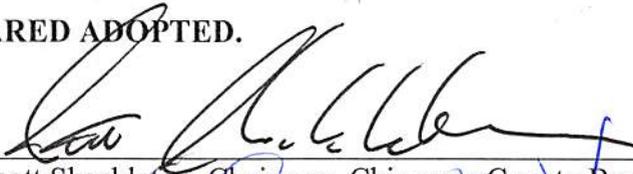
**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, After being fully informed by Delta County and for the reasons stated, the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners opposes HB 4138 (H-4), presumptive parole, as written and to urges you to exempt violent crimes from eligibility. Further, we urge that any savings be directed to the local services that will be burdened by this legislation.

**A VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS**

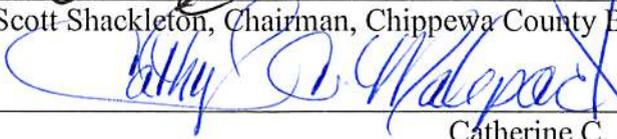
**AYES:** Scott Shackleton, Don McLean, Jim Martin, Conor Egan and Rudy Johnson

NAYS: None

**RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.**



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Scott Shackleton, Chairman, Chippewa County Board of Commissioners



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Catherine C. Maleport, County Clerk

STATE OF MICHIGAN     )  
  ) ss.  
COUNTY OF CHIPPEWA    )

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the resolution adopted by the County Board of Commissioners of Chippewa County at a regular meeting held on the date first stated above, and I further certify that public notice of such meeting was given as provided by law.



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Catherine C. Maleport, County Clerk