



BERRIEN COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION
B2004222
April 16, 2020

WHEREAS, in response to the dangers of Coronavirus disease COVID-19, Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer issued Executive Order 2020-4 on March 24, 2020 declaring a State of Emergency and subsequent executive orders which ordered Michigan residents, to the fullest extent possible, to stay home and stay safe through April 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, as one of the exceptions to the “Stay home, Stay safe” order, Berrien County employees are serving in law enforcement, health, judicial, infrastructure, and support capacities without the ability to practice social distancing, thus creating a higher risk for contracting COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, it has been reported that about 14,000 of Michigan’s 49,000 state employees are eligible for \$750 extra in their bimonthly paychecks, and that this extra compensation will come out of federal funds until Michigan’s stay-at-home order is lifted; and

WHEREAS, it is also reported that the State’s largest police union, the Police Officers Association of Michigan, is lobbying state lawmakers to ensure that all law enforcement in Michigan gets equal “hazard pay” increases; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Berrien County Board of Commissioners encourages the Police Officers Labor Council to join with the Police Officers Association of Michigan in asking the Governor and Legislature to provide equal hazard pay for all county, city, village, and township law enforcement officers in the State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Berrien County Board of Commissioners urges Governor Gretchen Whitmer and the State Legislature to provide adequate funding to Michigan local governmental units so that they may provide comparable hazard pay for all local government employees who are at a state of increased risk of contracting COVID-19 in the performance of their duties.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the County Clerk is directed to provide this resolution to the Governor, local State Legislators, and the Police Officers Labor Council.

BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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