

CHIPPEWA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Opposition to Legislative Proposals on Behavioral Health System Redesign

RESOLUTION #21-19

Whereas, local Community Mental Health Agencies have served for more than 20 years as the public mental health and intellectual/developmental disabilities service providers for each of the counties in the Upper Peninsula; and

Whereas, local Mental Health Agencies were created by each respective U.P. County Board of Commissioners as duly authorized under the Community Mental Health Act of 1963; and

Whereas, every year, thousands of individuals and their families in these communities, depend on the public behavioral health system for daily (and in some cases, life-long) supports and services; and

Whereas, the Upper Peninsula Association of County Commissioners opposes any behavioral health redesign that harms the state and county partnership for community mental health and related Medicaid safety net services and/or seeks to privatize Medicaid behavioral health services. Additionally, we believe that any behavioral health redesign must maintain the efficacy, responsiveness and integrity of the community-based behavioral health system; and

Whereas, recent proposals in the House and Senate fundamentally change the public behavioral health system and will harm those served by the system. The Upper Peninsula Association of County Commissioners opposes these proposals because:

- Beneficiaries would stand to lose access to services, supports and input into the design and operation of their services and supports system. Many Michiganders would be left out of the redesign proposals completely.
- Public oversight, governance, operations and accountability would be ended.
- Current proposals for redesign are not based on performance metrics related to positive outcomes, effectiveness and efficiency measures associated with the current public system. Also, there is no clear statement about the problems that the Senate or House are attempting to address or solve.
- The Senate proposal specifically incentivizes and prioritizes profits to private companies at the expense of the public and the beneficiaries served by the public behavioral health system.

Therefore be it resolved that we request that the Michigan Legislative support improvements in the delivery of publicly governed, publicly accountable, publicly operated regional and community-based systems, invest in and expand initiatives that are proven to improve citizen access, beneficiary policy making representatives support, improve and strengthen the public behavioral health safety net system, and that engagement, individuals and population health, behavioral wellbeing, resiliency, quality of life and community betterment such as those mentioned above. These are among the daily, weekly, and yearly accomplishments of the public system that would be destroyed by pursuing these new legislative proposals.

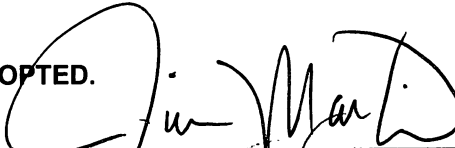
A VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS

AYES: Jim Martin, Robert Savoie, Scott Shackleton, Erik Baron and Ted Postula

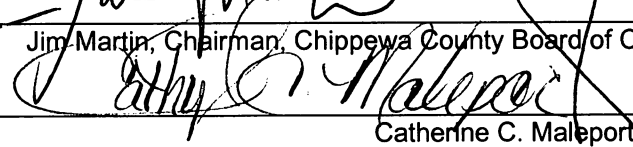
NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.



Jim Martin, Chairman, Chippewa County Board of Commissioners



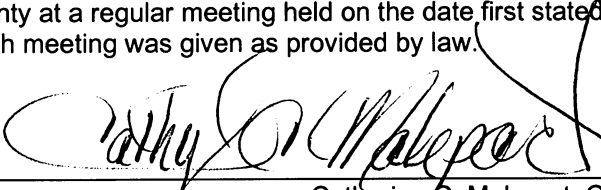
Catherine C. Maleport, County Clerk

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.



Catherine C. Maleport, County Clerk