



THE HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN ADOPTS THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

**WHEREAS**, in March of 2020, the global pandemic, COVID-19, resulted in local bodies of government having to hold their meetings virtually due to in-person meeting number restrictions put in place at the State level; and

**WHEREAS**, due to ongoing orders requiring mask wearing and social distancing, the need for meetings to continue being held virtually still exists; and

**WHEREAS**, while the timeframe to hold meetings virtually was extended through Senate Bill 1246, that window expires on March 31, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, while a recent MDHHS order expands the number of individuals that gather for a meeting to 25, that window expires April 19, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, with the mask wearing and social distancing requirements still in place, Berrien County does not have a facility that would allow for the Board of Commissioners and the public to be present for a meeting; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition, after March 31, 2021, the expanded reasons allowing virtual meetings ends; and

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill No. 207 would expand that window allowing virtual meeting through June 30, 2021.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** that the Berrien County Board of Commissioners supports Senate Bill No. 207 which would expand the window for holding virtual meetings of a public body through June 30, 2021.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the resolution will be forwarded to the Michigan Association of Counties and to all of the legislators representing Berrien County.

Respectfully,  
Berrien County Board of Commissioners

_____ R. McKinley Elliott	_____ Jim Curran	_____ Julie Wuerfel	_____ Ezra A. Scott
_____ David Vollrath	_____ Michael J. Majerek	_____ Don Meeks	_____ Teri Sue Freehling
_____ Robert P. Harrison	_____ Mamie L. Yarbrough	_____ Jon Hinkelman	_____ Rayonte D. Bell