**RESOLUTION:**

**REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR MICHIGAN SENATE BILL 400 AND MICHIGAN HOUSE BILL 4651 AMENDING THE EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SERVICES ENABLING ACT.**

**WHEREAS,** Michigan House Bill 4651 and Senate Bill 400 have been introduced in the Michigan Legislature, which would amend Public Act 32 of 1986 entitled the "Emergency Telephone Services Enabling Act"; and

**WHEREAS,** these bill would amend the funding system for 9-1-1 so that all communication devices that have access to 9-1-1, including prepaid wireless devices, contribute equally to the funding of 9-1-1 operations; and

**WHEREAS,** these bills provide a stable funding source for the counties to support their migration to Next Generation 9-1-1 and ongoing operational levels of service for 9-1-1 to its residents; and

**WHEREAS,** these bills afford the State and Counties collecting 9-1-1 fees a mechanism for court action should any service providers fail to collect and remit the fees; and

**WHEREAS,** these bills have a mechanism that provides the necessary checks and balances to ensure revenues generated are used for authorized expenditures for 9-1-1 services; and

**WHEREAS,** these authorized expenditures are limited to those directly related to receiving and processing 9-1-1 calls and the subsequent dispatching of responders via a public safety radio; and

**WHEREAS,** such limitation of expenditures has historically met the criteria established through the courts to define 9-1-1 surcharge as a fee for service directly related to telephone services; and

**WHEREAS,** any attempt to amend House Bill 4651 and Senate bill 400 for other State of Michigan general fund purposes not directly related to 9-1-1 may not meet the criteria of a fee for service and could be viewed as a tax increase for the residents of Ionia County, and

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Orange Township does hereby offer our support of House Bill 4651 and Senate Bill 400 as introduced; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Orange Township opposes amending House Bill 4651 and Senate Bill 400 to include any additional State of Michigan taxes on telephone service customers under the guise of 9-1-1 surcharge; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that copies of this resolution be transmitted to Governor Richard Snyder, and all Senators and Representatives serving Ionia County.

Orange Township Board 8-15-17

Tom Green

Linn Plitt