

LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION #2025-017

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES' PLAN TO IMPLEMENT A COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT PROCESS FOR PREPAID INPATIENT HEALTH PLAN

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan currently operates a publicly managed and community-based system for the delivery of specialty behavioral health services through 10 Prepaid Inpatient Health Plans ("PIHPs"), which are responsible for managing Medicaid mental health, developmental disability, and substance use disorder services; and

WHEREAS, the current PIHP system has consistently demonstrated value, local accountability, and community engagement, while successfully managing costs and improving health outcomes for vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services ("MDHHS") recently announced plans to initiate a competitive procurement process for the management of PIHP functions, which may open the door to private, non-profit health plans or managed care organizations ("MCOs") assuming control over behavioral health services; and

WHEREAS, such privatization could disrupt longstanding relationships between local mental health authorities, providers, and the communities they serve, and jeopardize the person-centered, recovery-oriented approach that has been cultivated under the public system; and

WHEREAS, many stakeholders, including individuals receiving services, advocates, local officials, and providers have expressed significant concerns about the potential impact of a competitive procurement process on care quality, access, local control, and transparency; and

WHEREAS, counties across Michigan have historically played a vital role in the governance, funding, and oversight of the public behavioral health system, and any change to that structure without meaningful county input undermines the principle of local governance; and

WHEREAS, maintaining a publicly accountable and locally governed behavioral health system is essential to ensuring that individuals with mental health and substance use needs receive timely, appropriate, and high-quality care. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Leelanau County Board of Commissioners formally opposes the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' (MDHHS) plan to implement a competitive procurement process for Prepaid Inpatient Health Plans (PIHPs); and BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Board urges Governor Whitmer, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, and the Michigan Legislature to halt any plans for privatization and instead

work collaboratively with counties, PIHPs, Community Mental Health Services Programs, service users, and other stakeholders to strengthen and improve the public behavioral health system, by only allowing public organizations with experience in managing Michigan's public mental health system to be part of any bid process should one occur; and BE IT FINALLY

RESOLVED, that Leelanau County Board of Commissioners directs the County Clerk to send a copy of this resolution to the Leelanau County delegation of both the Michigan Senate and House of Representatives; Governor Gretchen Whitmer; and as a communication to other Michigan Counties.

Adopted: September 16, 2025

Moved: Commissioner Wessell

Seconded: Commissioner Allgaier

Roll Call Vote: Wessell – YES; Yoder – YES; Allgaier – YES; Bunek – NO; Campbell – NO; Robbins – YES; Walter – YES.

AYES – 5 NO – 2

MOTION CARRIED.

**State of Michigan
County of Leelanau**



I, Michelle L. Crocker, Clerk of said County and Clerk of the Circuit Court for said County, the same being a Court of record having a seal, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the Record now remaining in my office and of the whole thereof. In Testimony whereof, I have hereto set my hand affixed the seal of the Circuit Court the 16th day of September, 2025.



Michelle L. Crocker, Leelanau County Clerk