

**ALGER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**Mary Ann Froberg, Clerk**  
**101 Court Street, Munising, MI 49862**

**RESOLUTION 2016-12**

**RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO HOUSE BILL 5232 AND SENATE BILL 0720,  
LEGISLATION TO AMEND THE MICHIGAN LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICTS ACT**

**WHEREAS**, Historic preservation is a public purpose, and as so, it has value to the entire community, driving economic development, attracting businesses, drawing tourists and new residents, creating a sense of place, and enhancing a community's quality of life;

**WHEREAS**, Michigan's historic resources rely on Michigan's current state law, PA 169 of 1970 (hereinafter, "the Act"), which provides critical protection enabling local governments to choose to safeguard their historic districts across the state;

**WHEREAS**, the positive benefits of historic districts on the economic development, quality of life, and general welfare of the people of the State of Michigan are well established; and

**WHEREAS**, under the current Act, the process of establishing a historic preservation district is in the hands of the local legislative body from start to finish, including appointing the study committee and deciding whether to establish a district or not, setting the final district boundaries in the local ordinance, and performing substantial outreach to members of the affected communities, including statutory public hearings, and final consideration and enactment; and

**WHEREAS**, local legislative bodies in Michigan have been designating and administering historic districts for several decades, beginning in 1970, and historic districts previously established retain equal, or have attained greater, significance over the intervening years and preservation of those districts has had a total economic impact of \$3.9 billion and the creation of 44,250 jobs;

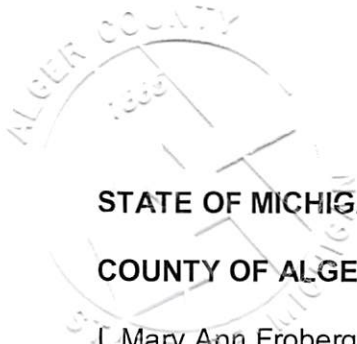
**WHEREAS**, House Bill 5232 of 2016, and the identical legislation Senate Bill 0720 of 2016, introduced to the legislature of the State of Michigan on January 26, 2016, propose to amend the Act to place additional and significant restrictions on the ability of a local unit of government to designate and regulate historic districts, jeopardizing the efficient and fair process I place; and

**WHEREAS**, House Bill 5232 of 2016, and the identical legislation Senate Bill 0720 of 2016, would additionally amend the Act such that existing historic districts will expire unless "renewed" every ten years; and

**WHEREAS**, a report from the House Fiscal Agency suggests that the legislation as written would "increase costs of local units of government attempting to set up new or modify existing historic districts; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that the Alger County Board of Commissioners hereby urges the House Committee on Local Government, the Senate Committee on Local Government, and the entire state legislature to reject Bill 5232 of 2016, and Senate Bill 0720 of 2016, as written, **AND BE IT FINALLY**,

**RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution shall be transmitted to the House Committee on Local Government, the Senate Committee on Local Government , all members of the Michigan legislature, and the Governor of the State of Michigan.



  
Jerry Doucette, Chair  
Alger County Board of Commissioners

STATE OF MICHIGAN) ) SS  
COUNTY OF ALGER )

I, Mary Ann Froberg, Alger County Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution passed by the Alger County Board of Commissioners, at a regular meeting held on April 18, 2016.

  
Mary Ann Froberg  
Alger County Clerk