

IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

COUNTY OF IONIA

RESOLUTION TO DECLARE IONIA COUNTY TO BE A

“SECOND AMENDMENT SANCTUARY COUNTY”

THE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF IONIA, STATE OF MICHIGAN, STATES:

WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners of the County of IONIA, State of Michigan, pursuant to Michigan statute, is vested with the authority of administering the affairs of the County government of IONIA County, Michigan, and is organized as a body corporate with powers and immunities provided by law, and to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of IONIA County and the employees of the IONIA County government; and

WHEREAS, the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution, ratified in 1791 as part of the Bill of Rights, protects the right of the people to keep and bear arms; and

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court in *District of Columbia v. Heller*, 554 U.S.570 (2008), affirmed an individual’s right to possess a firearm, unconnected with service in a militia, and to use that firearm for traditionally lawful purposes, such as self-defense within the home; and

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court in *McDonald v. Chicago*, 561 U.S. 742 (2010), affirmed that the right of an individual to “keep and bear arms,” as protected under the Second Amendment, is incorporated to the States by the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment; and

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court in *United States v. Miller*, 307 U.S. 174 (1939), opined that possession or use of a firearm that has some reasonable relationship to the preservation of a well-regulated militia is protected by the Second Amendment; and

WHEREAS, Article I, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution (1963) provides that “Every person has a right to keep and bear arms for the defense of himself and the state”; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of this Board to declare its support of the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution and to the provisions of the Michigan Constitution which protect IONIA County citizens’ individual rights to keep and bear arms; and

WHEREAS, each IONIA County Commissioner, as provided by Article XI, Section 1, of the Michigan Constitution (1963), took an oath to support the United States Constitution and the Michigan Constitution.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the IONIA County Board of Commissioners, that the County of IONIA, Michigan, be, and hereby is, declared to be a "Second Amendment Sanctuary County."

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Board affirms its support for the IONIA County Sheriff and the IONIA County Prosecuting Attorney, in the exercise of their sound discretion to not enforce against any citizen an unconstitutional firearms law.

BE IT, FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board directs its staff to forward a copy of this resolution to the County's fellow county elected officials, the Michigan State Legislature (House of Representatives and State Senators), the Governor of Michigan and all of the Michigan U.S. Congressmen.

This Resolution was adopted by the IONIA County Board of Commissioners at a regular meeting held at the IONIA County Board Chambers, IONIA County Courthouse, IONIA County, Michigan, by an affirmative vote of no less than four (4) of the members of the County Board of Commissioners who are elected and serving, on this 11 day of February, 2020.

This Resolution was offered by Commissioner Wirtz, and supported by Commissioner Sharp.

A roll call vote was taken and this Resolution was passed by a vote of: 6-0.

Those Commissioners voting in favor: Sharp, Shattuck, Wirtz, Bredice, Tiejema, Banks.

Those Commissioners voting against: none.

Those Commissioners abstaining: Hodges (absent).

The Resolution Was Declared Adopted.

Fanny Tiejema, Chairman IONIA County Board of Commissioners
vice - chair

ATTEST:

Greg Geiger, IONIA County Clerk