

# **ISABELLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

## **RESOLUTION NO. 16-04-02**

**WHEREAS**, In 2-15 the Center of Public Integrity and Global Integrity conducted a national study of state ethics and transparency laws and safeguards, in which the State of Michigan was ranked last; and

**WHEREAS**, Some of the reasons cited for the State's poor ranking was weak public-record laws and the absence of laws requiring personal financial disclosures by lawmakers and top state officials; and

**WHEREAS**, Another glaring issue cited was the exemption of the governor and the legislature from state open-records laws; and

**WHEREAS**, The State has required transparency from local municipalities through Economic Vitality Incentive Program (EVIP) and Customer Identification Program (CIP), yet the State has chosen to not take the opportunity to lead by example; and

**WHEREAS**, The Isabella County Board of Commissioners feels it is time that State Lawmakers and top officials stop exempting themselves from the laws that they expect others to follow;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, on this day May 3, 2016 that the Isabella County Board of Commissioners hereby call on the Michigan State lawmakers and the Governor and other top officials to stop the hypocrisy of exempting themselves from the laws that they enact for the governance of the State of Michigan, of which they are included; and be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Senator Judy Emmons, Speaker of the House Kevin Cotter, Governor Rick Snyder and the Michigan Association of Counties.

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George A. Green, Board Chairperson  
Isabella County Board of Commissioners

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Mindé B. Lux, County Clerk  
Isabella County