Conference of Western Wayne
39293 Plymouth Road
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734.953.8834

CWW

Serving 700,000 Michigan Residents

CWW Represents:

Cities: Belleville, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Garden City, Inkster, Livonia, Northville, Plymouth, Romulus, Wayne and Westland

Townships: Canton Charter Township, Huron Charter Township, Northville Charter Township, Plymouth Charter Township, Redford Charter Township, Sumpter Township and Van Buren Charter Township

CWW RESOLUTION 2015-103
OPPOSING HB 4138/PRESUMPTIVE PAROLE

June 12, 2015

WHEREAS, The Conference of Western Wayne (CWW), a consortium of eighteen Western Wayne communities in Wayne County who serve a total population of 700,000 residents, has joined in an effort to improve local government and enhance the quality of life for area residents through municipal cooperation; and

WHEREAS, Michigan spends nearly $2 billion a year on corrections cost and an estimated $35,000 a year per prisoner; and

WHEREAS, the closing of two Michigan prisons (taking 1300 beds completely off of the books) would yield the corrections system a savings of roughly $30 million per year; and

WHEREAS, in a statistic that is one of the highest rates in the nation, over 70% of Michigan's prisoners are serving time for violent crimes; and

WHEREAS, over half of all prisoners are serving time for homicide, sexual assault or armed robbery offenses; and

WHEREAS, over two-thirds of all prisoners are serving time for homicide, sexual assault, armed robberies, home invasions or firearm offenses; and

WHEREAS, according to the Prosecuting Attorney's Association of Michigan, 90% of felons are not even sent to prison. They are sentenced to probation, jail and/or diversion programs; and

WHEREAS, only 10% of convicted felons are actually sentenced to prison time, and over 70% of *those* felons are serving time for violent offenses; and

WHEREAS, HB 4138 would allow for prisoners who score a high probability of release score would be presumed, without substantial and compelling reasons otherwise, to not be a menace to society and would be released upon serving their minimum sentence; and

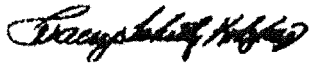
WHEREAS, according to Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette, the Michigan Parole Board currently releases nearly 70% of "high probability" prisoners at their first minimum release date; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, while we commend the Michigan Legislature for exploring cost savings ideas, the incalculable cost of releasing more violent offenders back into our communities warrants a deeper exploration into the annual per prisoner cost in the Michigan corrections system; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Conference of Western Wayne offers this resolution in opposition of House Bill 4138.

Supervisor Tracey Schultz Kobylarz, CWW Chairman of the Board:

I attest that this is a true and correct copy of the Motion adopted at the direction of the CWW Board of Directors at its regular meeting held on June 12, 2015 in the Township of Plymouth.



Motion: Supervisor Robert Nix, Northville Township
Second: Supervisor Shannon Price, Plymouth Township

Ayes: Supervisor Robert Nix, Northville Township
Supervisor Phil LaJoy, Canton Township
Supervisor Linda Combs, Van Buren Township
Supervisor Shannon Price, Plymouth Township
Supervisor Tracey Schultz Kobylarz, Redford Township
Mayor Chris Johnson, City of Northville
Mayor Dan Paletko, City of Dearborn Heights
Supervisor David Glaab, Huron Township
Mayor Hilliard Hampton, City of Inkster
Mayor LeRoy Burcroff, City of Romulus
Mayor Jim Hauwley, City of Wayne

Nays: None

Abstain: Mayor Dan Dwyer, City of Plymouth

Absent: City of Livonia, City of Westland, City of Garden City, City of Belleville, City of Dearborn, Sumpter Township