

**Joint Resolution of the Counties of Gogebic, Houghton, Iron,  
Baraga, Ontonagon and Keweenaw**

Whereas, since 1974, and up until October 1, 2015, the above-named Western Upper Peninsula Counties provided job training services to their residents through several agencies which were almost exclusively funded by the State of Michigan, and

Whereas, the Western Upper Peninsula Manpower Consortium was disbanded in 2015, along with two other Upper Peninsula Employment and Training providers, all of which were consolidated into the UPWARD Talent Council, pursuant to the Governor's directive, and,

Whereas, the State of Michigan and the affected Western Upper Peninsula Counties were all aware of the shortfall in the pension fund created for the employees of the Manpower Consortium, and the State of Michigan paid for an audit to determine the extent of the potential shortfall, and,

Whereas, the initial Manpower Consortium shortfall was \$300,924.00, which the State of Michigan promised to address after the actuarial report, and,

Whereas, the unfunded liability has grown to \$970,165.00, and will continue to grow until funded, as the State of Michigan has yet to fund this known liability, and,

Whereas, there was a shortfall as it concerned the pension benefits owed the former employees of the Eastern Upper Peninsula Employment and Training Consortium and that shortfall was corrected by subsequent legislative action, and,

Whereas, the failure of the State to fund the Manpower Consortium pension shortfall, as it did for the similarly situated Eastern Upper Peninsula Employment and Training Consortium, created an unfunded pension liability that adversely affects some of the most vulnerable counties in Michigan.

THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED, that the six Counties of the Western Upper Peninsula urge and demand that the Legislature correct the shortfall that exists in the pension fund for the seven employees who have retired from the Western Upper Peninsula Alliance Board, all of whom fulfilled their obligation to the State of Michigan by devoting years of hard work to the economic well-being of the State of Michigan.

County of Iron

By: Patti A. Perretto  
Patti A. Perretto  
Its Chairperson

By: Julie Kezerle  
Julie Kezerle  
Its Clerk

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted at a meeting of the **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF IRON** held on February 11, 2020.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF THE COUNTY OF IRON

By: Julie Kezerle  
Julie Kezerle  
Its Clerk