

ALGER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Mary Ann Froberg, Clerk
101 COURT STREET, MUNISING, MI 49862

RESOLUTION #2021-16

SUPPORTING A TOURISM REINVESTMENT EXCISE TAX

WHEREAS State Rep. Sara Cambensy has introduced House Bills 5172 and 5173 to help local communities deal with providing increased public safety measures specific to exponential increases in tourism like the national lakeshores of Alger, Leelanau, and Benzie counties; and

WHEREAS several regions, not just Northern Michigan, are draining their taxpayer public safety funds to take care of large increases in tourism in their areas that require increased police road patrols, search and rescue missions, patrolling of municipal campgrounds, etc.; and

WHEREAS the bills will allow each county the ability to put a local excise tax on the ballot to collect up to a 3 percent local tax on transient housing to be used only for public safety; and

WHEREAS all 83 counties will be eligible to decide how the money is spent, as Michigan does not allow a local taxing authority as is found in other states and it is necessary for the Legislature to authorize Michigan all counties to do this; and

WHEREAS hotels in the Upper Peninsula are currently being taxed 11 percent with 5 percent going to the state, 5 percent going to local convention and visitor bureaus, 1 percent going to the UP-wide Convention and Visitor Bureau Fund and nothing going to local communities to help manage tourism; and

WHEREAS research shows surrounding Great Lakes states are taxing their transient housing upwards of 7% to 17% with Michigan being far behind, it is in the best interest of Michigan communities to adequately fund already strained public safety budgets for both residents and tourists;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Alger County supports a Tourism Reinvestment Excise Tax as embodied in House Bills 5172 and 5173;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alger County Board of Commissioners directs staff to forward this resolution to all Michigan counties, State Representative Sara Cambensy, Senator Ed McBroom, Speaker of the House, and the Michigan Association of Counties.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the above is a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Alger County Board of Commissioners at the time, date, and place specified above pursuant to the required statutory procedures.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Ann Froberg, Alger County Clerk

Dated: August 16, 2021