

EATON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

December 18, 2019

**RESOLUTION CONSENTING TO CONTINUED RESETTLEMENT OF REFUGEES
IN EATON COUNTY**

Introduced by the Public Works and Planning Committee

Commissioner Whitacre moved for the approval of the following resolution. Seconded by Commissioner Haskell.

WHEREAS, Eaton County has welcomed refugees facing religious, ethnic and political persecution since its organization; and

WHEREAS, the world is currently facing one of the worst humanitarian crises in human history; and

WHEREAS, by definition, refugees are individuals who have been forced to flee their home country due to persecution based on their race, religion, ethnicity, political opinion, or social group; and

WHEREAS, resettlement is the last resort for refugees who cannot return to their home country and cannot rebuild their lives where they first fled; and

WHEREAS, the United States has the most extensive refugee vetting in the world; and

WHEREAS, There are currently a limited number of unaccompanied refugee minor children placed in a foster home facility within Eaton County; and

WHEREAS, churches and families have supported the arrival and integration of refugee families for several years.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eaton County Board of Commissioners affirms the continued resettlement of refugees within Eaton County limits and shall expressly confirm so in writing to the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration upon passing of this resolution, as per the terms of Executive Order 13888.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution will be transmitted to Carol Thompson O'Connell, Acting Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration. Carried.