

EATON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

SEPTEMBER 16, 2020

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR UPDATING PART 115, MICHIGAN'S
SOLID WASTE LAW**

Introduced by the Public Works and Planning Committee

Commissioner Whitacre moved the approval of the following resolution. Seconded by Commissioner Rogers.

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy has been working with a wide range of stakeholders to substantially update and amend Part 115, Michigan's solid waste statute, to prioritize sustainable materials management, specifically the recovery and diversion of discarded materials for productive use; and

WHEREAS, Eaton County's last Solid Waste Plan was updated and approved in 1999 and is long overdue for an update. Eaton County would receive funding to facilitate a new planning process, in which all pertinent local stakeholders would work to update the County's plan under the updated system. Plans will be required to show how progress will be made to meet established benchmark recycling standards and State recycling goals based on the needs and interests of the County as determined by local participants. These new plans will be designated as Materials Management Plans, reflecting the shift in priorities to reduce the disposal of resources; and

WHEREAS, Part 115 updates aim to support sustainable materials management methodologies such as recycling, composting, anaerobic digestion, and other beneficial utilization activities, by:

- Incentivizing counties to set recycling goals and plan for holistic discards management; and
- Consider and plan for the development of facilities necessary to manage these materials in ways that protect humans and the environment, as well, as making materials available for remanufacturing.
- Making funding available with the goal of tripling Michigan's recycling rate. The funding would cover:
 - County Materials Management Planning,
 - Recycling infrastructure development,
 - Development of markets for recyclable materials,
 - Education to help residents use recycling systems effectively; and

WHEREAS, Eaton County would benefit from a fresh take on waste, funded planning, and state grants, including funding for:

- Improved recycling infrastructure and services; and
- Public education; and

WHEREAS, Public Act 588 enrolled in 2018 Legislative makes annual funding available to support the amendments proposed to Michigan Solid Waste Laws.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eaton County Board of Commissioners supports the substantial update of Michigan solid waste laws, Part 115, for the advancement of local, county, regional, and state recycling goals and county materials management planning. Carried.