VILLAGE OF SPRING LAKE
OTTAWA COUNTY, MICHIGAN

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN STRATE, SUPPORTED BY COUNCIL MEMBER DOSS, MOVED THE
ADOPTION OF THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

RESOLUTION NO: 2015-02

A Resolution Urging the Repeal of Section 57, Subsection (3) of PA 269 of 2016

WHEREAS, both the Michigan Senate and the Michigan House of Representatives
passed Senate Bill 571 late in the night of December 16, 2015, just prior to
recessing for the year; and,

WHEREAS, one of the last minute amendments made to Senate Bill 571, without the
knowledge of the Michigan Municipal League or other local government
organizations, and approved without any public testimony or awareness, was the
new language inserted into Section 57, Subsection (3); and,

WHEREAS, this new law prohibits a public body, or a person acting for a public body,
from using public funds or resources for the purpose of communicating any
information to the electorate regarding a local ballot question that is to appear on
the ballot within 60 days of an election; and,

WHEREAS, municipal elected and appointed officials have a civic and legal duty to the
residents of their communities to fully inform them regarding the issues placed
before them and upon which they are asked to exercise their constitutional right
to vote; and,

WHEREAS, existing laws, including the former language in Section 57, and decades of
guidance from the Michigan Secretary of State, already prohibit the use of public
funds to advocate for or against ballot issues; and,

WHEREAS, existing laws already provided for an allowance for elected and appointed
officials to express their views without fear of violating the act; and,

WHEREAS, because the new law bans only communication on local ballot issues, it
creates inconsistent treatment of statewide ballot questions versus local
initiatives; and,

WHEREAS, there are substantial questions regarding the constitutionality and legality
of the new law, including a possible ban on freedom of speech.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Spring Lake Village Council calls for
an immediate repeal of the new language in Section 57, subsection (3) of PA 269
of 2016; and
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Village's representatives in the Michigan House of Representatives and the Michigan Senate.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Council Member Van Strate and supported by Council Member Doss and same was duly passed at a regular meeting of the Spring Lake Village Council held on February 15, 2016, and that the vote was as follows:

Yes: Doss, Nauta, Powers, Tepastte and Van Strate
No: None
Absent: MacLachlan and Miller

I, Marv Hinga, Village Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by the Village of Spring Lake at a Regular Meeting thereof held on the 15th day of February, 2016.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

Dated: February 15, 2016

Marv Hinga, Clerk
Village of Spring Lake