CITY OF SALINE
WASHTENAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A “NO” VOTE ON “SUPER-MINORITY” CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

WHEREAS, the Michigan Supreme Court has ordered that a “Super-Minority” Constitutional Amendment be placed on the November 6 General Election ballot; and

WHEREAS, this Constitutional Amendment would end simple majority democracy on tax issues in Lansing and allow a minority of just one-third of the members of the House or Senate to block important tax reforms; and

WHEREAS, just 13 state Senators in Lansing would gain the power to block the votes of the other 135 members of the House and Senate making it nearly impossible to end tax breaks and loopholes currently in Michigan tax law that benefit rich and powerful special interests and their lobbyists over ordinary taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, only seven other states have the provision in their constitution; one state, Mississippi, is the poorest state in the nation; another state, Nevada, has the nation’s highest unemployment rate; and, one of the states, California, failed to balance its state budget on time in 16 of 20 years because the requirement creates partisan gridlock and makes it nearly impossible for politicians to solve problems cooperatively; and

WHEREAS, if this “Super-Minority” Constitutional Amendment should pass on November 6, our local taxes would almost certainly increase, and in addition, the state’s credit rating would almost certainly plummet, forcing taxpayers at the state and local levels to pay more to cover the costs of borrowing to pay for roads, bridges, schools, and other critical infrastructure needs;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Saline City Council hereby supports a “NO” vote on this “Super-Minority” Constitutional Amendment and call upon all citizens and taxpayers of the City of Saline to defeat this deceitful and dangerous hijacking of the State Constitution by voting a resounding “NO” on this proposed amendment at the polls on November 6, 2012.

MOVED by ____________ SECONDED by ____________ that the foregoing Resolution be adopted.

AYES: ____________________________________________

NAYS: ____________________________________________

ABSENT: __________________________________________

Resolution declared adopted at a regular meeting of the Saline City Council held on Monday, September 10, 2012.

Dianne S. Hill, Saline City Clerk