

**RESOLUTION NO. 14-19**

**CITY OF COLDWATER, MICHIGAN**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PROPOSAL 1 ON THE AUGUST 5, 2014 BALLOT**

At a regular meeting of the City of Coldwater held in the Council Chambers of the Henry L. Brown Municipal Building, One Grand Street, Coldwater, Michigan, at 5:30 p.m. on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2014,

PRESENT: Councilmembers: Petzko, Miller, Ortiz, Kirk, Pierce, Beckwith,  
Hazelbaker and Peet.

ABSENT: Mayor Kramer

The following resolution was offered by Councilmember Pierce and seconded by Councilmember Beckwith:

**WHEREAS**, local governments in Michigan have struggled with unstable funding needed to provide essential services as well as create vibrant places that incent job creation and attract and retain talented employees; and

**WHEREAS**, Michigan businesses have struggled with an uncompetitive tax on business; and

**WHEREAS**, small businesses and manufacturers power our economy and are the largest contributor to job growth in Michigan and research shows job growth thrives in strong communities and metropolitan regions; and

**WHEREAS**, no other state in our region taxes business equipment the way Michigan does – and most of those states don't tax it at all, which makes Michigan significantly less competitive when it comes to job creation and business investment; and

**WHEREAS**, Michigan communities have struggled for years to pay for essential services like police, fire, ambulances, schools and jails; and

**WHEREAS**, Michigan communities have relied on this shrinking source of Personal Property Tax revenue to provide other community services as well, including roads, transportation and libraries; and

**WHEREAS**, with bipartisan support the Michigan Legislature has voted to reform the antiquated personal property tax to help increase Michigan's competitiveness with other states and remove an onerous tax that will allow more business investment and create more jobs while providing a stable revenue source for local communities; and

**WHEREAS**, this is not a constitutional amendment but the state constitution requires Michigan voters to approve certain changes in local taxes; and

**WHEREAS**, local governments have struggled with unstable funding needed to provide services and business have struggled with an uncompetitive tax on equipment for years;

**WHEREAS**, Proposal 1 on the August 5, 2014 ballot, will make Michigan more competitive, which will help local communities to attract more businesses and talent and create local jobs;

**WHEREAS**, Proposal 1 is supported by the Michigan Municipal League, the Michigan Townships Association, the Michigan Association of Counties, Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police, Michigan Association of Police Organizations, Michigan AARP, Michigan Community College Association, Michigan Farm Bureau, the Small Business Association of Michigan, Michigan Sheriffs Association, Michigan Chamber of Commerce, National Association of Independent Businesses and the Michigan Manufacturers Association; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the City of Coldwater hereby expresses its strong support for the proposal to eliminate the unfair double tax and strengthen our communities. We urge our residents to vote YES on Proposal 1 on August 5, 2014, ballot.

**DATED:** July 14, 2014



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**Susan E. Heath, City Clerk  
City of Coldwater**