

**Substitute for House Resolution No.288.**

A resolution to declare April 2018 as County Government Month in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Originally imported from England, the county system of government has been modified by individual states to fit their needs and circumstances; and

Whereas, April has been set aside nationally to highlight the important work of counties across the United States; and

Whereas, Michigan is home to 83 counties and 622 county commissioners that play an essential role in keeping communities healthy, vibrant, and safe; and

Whereas, Programs such as public health, mental health, care for abused and neglected children, courts, vital records, land and property records, disaster preparedness, solid waste management, property tax administration, law enforcement, election administration, and incarceration of convicts are provided on behalf of and in conjunction with the state of Michigan; and

Whereas, Local governments and counties collaborate to provide such services as parks and recreation programs, senior citizen services, medical care facilities, drainage systems, and infrastructure construction and maintenance. Such partnerships combine to help ensure the efficient provision of services in order to maintain the health, safety, and vibrancy of society; and

Whereas, The theme for this year's County Government Month is "Serving the Underserved" and focuses on the critical role counties play in breaking multi-generational cycles of poverty; and

Whereas, Each year since 1991 counties across the country have actively promoted their own programs and services to the public they serve; and

Whereas, During this month, we join with the local counties and county commissioners to recognize and raise awareness of the countless efforts and contributions of county boards of commissioners throughout Michigan; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, that members of this legislative body declare April 2018 as County Government Month in the state of Michigan. We urge all citizens to observe the month with appropriate programs and activities.