

Whereas Governor Snyder proposes to eliminate the Brownfield and Historic Tax Credit Programs as they have existed, and

Whereas these have been highly effective economic development tools with a significant return on the public investment, have resulted in contaminated, blighted, and/or obsolete buildings being demolished or rehabilitated, have resulted in increased employment, have resulted in significant infusions of private investment, have resulted in additional revenues to local units and to the state, have accomplished their objective of reusing existing buildings and preserving green spaces, are fair to all potential project locations and units of government, and

Whereas the City of Adrian has utilized the Brownfield Program to raze the obsolete and structurally dangerous silos on Logan Street, where the new City/County Transportation Building was constructed, and

Whereas the City/County Transportation Building could not have been completed on that site absent the Brownfield program, and

Whereas the City of Adrian has utilized the Brownfield Program to raze the obsolete Spielman's True Value Hardware store on North Main, allowing the construction of The North Towne Commons, a project with 6 new storefronts and to date, 5 new City of Adrian businesses, including the expansion of an existing pharmacy to a second location, a new restaurant, a credit union, an insurance agency, and a chiropractic office, and

Whereas the City of Adrian has utilized the Brownfield Program to raze an obsolete industrial building and remediate a contaminated industrial site on Beecher Street, paving the way for future construction, and

Whereas the City of Adrian, in conjunction with a private Development firm, and together with the Student Town Initiative, Adrian College, Jackson Community College, the Lenawee Intermediate School District, and Siena Heights University, are engaged and planning to construct a multi-story, mixed use rehabilitation project anchored by a unique restaurant in downtown Adrian, designed to involve the award-winning LISD Culinary Arts Program together with the outstanding business, marketing, and accounting departments at Adrian College and Siena Heights University, and the Jackson Community College Culinary Arts Program, and

Whereas the reuse of any of the existing downtown Adrian buildings identified as suitable for this project are historical buildings, largely abandoned, and in need of extensive rehabilitation, and

Whereas such rehabilitation would be too costly to induce any private investment absent Historic and Brownfield Tax Credits, and

Whereas this project is a continuation of the City of Adrian's efforts to revitalize its core, downtown district and create the sense of Place so critical to future growth, and

Whereas the City of Adrian and local merchants have already invested millions of dollars in this revitalization effort,

Be it resolved that the Commission of the City of Adrian encourages the Michigan Legislature, with the strongest possible voice, to retain the Brownfield and Historic Tax Credit Programs because they are an outstanding economic development tool, they are fair to all, they allow all communities in the State of Michigan an opportunity to reimagine their most challenging buildings and properties, they allow us to revitalize our neighborhoods and downtowns, they attract further investment in our communities, they increase our property values, they facilitate the salvage of our treasured historic landmarks, and most importantly, they leverage the preservation of our heritage and exceptional American way of life for generations to come.