

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF ORION  
COUNTY OF OAKLAND  
STATE OF MICHIGAN

BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
RESOLUTION OPPOSING HB 4965

WHEREAS Video/Cable franchise fees charged to Video/Cable providers has resulted in approximately \$100 Million dollars of General Fund Revenue for Local Government across Michigan for the last several decades.

WHEREAS HB 4965 threatens to terminate that revenue stream;

WHEREAS HB 4965 is advanced by Netflix and other Video Streamers, including Satellite Video providers, in an effort to avoid the assessment of these franchise fees on their Streaming Video Services;

WHEREAS the Michigan Video Service law, 2006 PA 480 carefully protects these Local revenues by providing that ALL Video Service Providers shall pay a fair rent for use of the Public Rights of Way (ROW or PROW) regardless of the manner of providing their video service, including Internet Protocol:

WHEREAS Netflix and Satellite and other Video "Streamers" do utilize the ROW at least in part and transmit their video streaming product via Internet Protocol and as such, those "Streamers" are subject to Franchise Fees;

WHEREAS the transition from traditional Cable/Video to Streaming Internet based Video is rapidly accelerating the last couple of years and it is therefore crucial that Local governments be able to assess franchise fees on Streamers as the new form of Cable/Video Service in order to maintain current levels of Revenue;

WHEREAS the loss of \$100 Million Dollars annually in General Fund Revenues will be catastrophic to essential service funding including public safety, ROW maintenance, general government operations, Etc.

WHEREFORE: It is hereby Resolved that the City/Township/Village of Orion, Opposes HB 4965 and directs that this resolution be transmitted to our State Representative, Senator and the Governor of the Great State of Michigan.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ORION,  
OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THAT:**

1. The Township Board authorizes the Township to oppose HB 4965.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

YEAS:

6

NAYS:

0

ABSTENTIONS:

0

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**CERTIFICATION**

STATE OF MICHIGAN     )  
  ) ss  
COUNTY OF OAKLAND    )

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a Resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Charter Township of Orion, Oakland County, Michigan, on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2023, the original of which is on file in my office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my official signature this 21 day of November, 2023.

  
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Clerk Penny Shults  
Charter Township of Orion