

# News Release

## **Oakland County Board of Commissioners unanimously adopts resolution to place moratorium on county hiring**

*Exceptions to the freeze include vacancies due to COVID-19 response, more*

**April 14, 2020, OAKLAND COUNTY, MI.** – At its meeting last night, the Oakland County Board of Commissioners unanimously adopted a resolution to temporarily suspend county hiring, the creation of new positions and the filling of vacant positions. The resolution makes exceptions for cases where employees are required to fill positions as part of COVID-19 response, 24/7 operations, federal and state mandates, grant funded programming, special revenue funds and part-time non-eligible personnel. The moratorium is in effect until June 30, 2020.

“This hiring freeze demonstrates that Oakland County is committed to taking the necessary actions to protect its residents,” Commissioner **Helaine Zack** (D-Huntington Woods), who introduced the resolution, said. “The COVID-19 outbreak will have long term economic repercussions on our region, and it is important that the county is ready and able to put the necessary resources toward responding to this crisis.”

The resolution follows Governor Gretchen Whitmer’s Executive Directive 2020-4 to institute a freeze on hiring, creation of new positions, filling of vacant positions, transfers and promotions for the State of Michigan.

“The COVID-19 outbreak has already required a significant amount of unplanned spending and county resources,” Republican Caucus Chairman **Michael J. Gingell** (R-Lake Orion) said. “To date, approximately \$20 million has been allocated to combat this virus. We do not know the overall impact COVID-19 will have on the county’s revenue sources, and that is something we cannot control. However, we can, and should be, prudent and responsible in our spending during this time. A hiring freeze is a practical first step in focusing on the expenses of the county that we can control.”

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