TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN: Your County Administration Committee respectfully recommends the adoption of the following:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, our country has welcomed refugees facing religious, ethnic and political persecution for several hundred years; and

WHEREAS, Bethany Christian Services has requested a resolution or formal letter of support as the result of the recent Presidential Executive Order 13883 which requires that refugees will not be permitted to resettle into a state or locality unless written consent is provided by the governor and a local official; and

WHEREAS, the State Refugee Coordinator, Office of Global Michigan, has clarified this request by stating that arriving refugee families and adult individuals are not being placed in Berrien County; and

WHEREAS, the State Refugee Coordinator, Office of Global Michigan, is only asking that Berrien County formally consent to the continued placement of refugee youth who have no guardians with foster parents who happen to reside in Berrien County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Berrien County Board of Commissioners does hereby consent to the continued placement of refugee youth who have no guardians with foster parents who happen to reside in Berrien County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this consent does not extend at this time to the placement of arriving refugee families and adult individual within the County.

Respectfully submitted,
BERRIEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Jim Curran, Chairman
Michael J. Majerek, Vice Chair
Chris Heugel
Don Meeks