

MANISTEE COUNTY RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT
A FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF PEACE AND NONVIOLENCE

At a regular meeting of the Manistee County Board of Commissioners held in the Manistee County Courthouse & Government Center, 415 Third Street, Manistee, Michigan, on the 23rd day of October, 2007.

PRESENT: Fenstermacher, Haik, Kowalski, Lottie, O'Shea, Rutske

ABSENT: McCraner

The following resolution was offered by Lottie and seconded by Kowalski :

WHEREAS, on February 5, 2007, Rep. Dennis Kucinich, Democrat of Ohio, for himself and on behalf of 51 other members of the United States House of Representatives , introduced House Bill 808 (HR 808) in the United States House of Representatives to create a United States Department of Peace and Nonviolence, which has since garnered the co-sponsorship of more than sixty members of the United States House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, the proposed federal legislation to create a United States Department of Peace and Nonviolence will establish a cabinet-level Department of Peace and Nonviolence, which will be headed by a Secretary of Peace who will advise the President on issues that are both domestic and international in scope; and

WHEREAS, the proposed federal legislation to create a United States Department of Peace and Nonviolence will benefit the County of Manistee by holding peace as an organizing principle of American society, which will change the tone of the society; and

WHEREAS, the proposed federal legislation to create a United States Department of Peace and Nonviolence will benefit Manistee County by supporting existing programs and developing new programs that relate to the societal challenges of domestic violence, abuse and neglect of children, school violence, gang violence, racial or ethnic violence, hate crimes, and police-community relations and disputes, which will assist members of our law enforcement agencies in experiencing fewer dangerous encounters, especially while making routine runs; and

WHEREAS, the proposed federal legislation to create a United States Department of Peace and Nonviolence will benefit Manistee County by promoting the development and distribution to the States and their schools a peace curriculum and supporting materials for building communicative peace skills, nonviolent conflict resolutions skills, and knowledge of peace processes; and

WHEREAS, the proposed federal legislation to create a United States Department of Peace and Nonviolence will benefit Manistee County by encouraging and supporting the development of nonviolent conflict resolution and violence prevention initiatives from within the community, including its religious

groups and non-governmental organizations, thus creating greater community involvement and thereby a strong, stable, cohesive civil society in and around the County; and

WHEREAS, the proposed federal legislation to create a United States Department of Peace and Nonviolence has more than sixty co-sponsors of the members of the United States House of Representatives;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Manistee County Board of Commissioners supports and endorses the proposed federal legislation (HR 808) to create a United States Department of Peace and Nonviolence; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Manistee County Board of Commissioners urges Representative Peter Hoekstra to sign on as a co-sponsor of the proposed federal legislation (HR 808) to create a United States Department of Peace and Nonviolence and to use the powers of their office to otherwise actively support its passage among their colleagues in Congress; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Manistee County Board of Commissioners urges U.S. Senators Carl Levin and Debbie Stabenow to introduce a companion Bill into the United States Senate to create a United States Department of Peace and Nonviolence and actively support its passage; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to U.S. Representative Peter Hoekstra; U.S. Senator Carl Levin; U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow; and President George W. Bush.

Moved by Lottie, supported by Kowalski to approve the Manistee County Resolution To Support A Federal Department Of Peace And Nonviolence.

YEAS: 5 O'Shea, Rutske, Fenstermacher, Kowalski, Lottie

NAYS: 1 Haik

ABSENT: 1 McCraner

Motion Carried