

**RESOLUTION OF FORD COUNTY, IL URGING  
THE GOVERNOR TO VETO HOUSE BILL 3653 REGARDING  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM  
RESOLUTION NO. -21-22**

**WHEREAS**, FORD COUNTY is a unit of local government pursuant to Section 6 of Article VII of the Illinois Constitution of 1970; and

**WHEREAS**, the Illinois General Assembly passed House Bill 3653 on January 13, 2021 (the "Bill"); and

**WHEREAS**, the Bill enacts several provisions which have been referred to as criminal justice reform measures; and

**WHEREAS**, while FORD COUNTY supports many of the criminal justice reform measures contained in the Bill, some of the measures will have significant negative impacts on the safety of the residents of FORD COUNTY and the men and women of the Ford County Sheriff's Office; and

**WHEREAS**, of further concern is that local governments and local law enforcement agencies were not provided any meaningful opportunity to comment on or participate in the crafting of the proposed criminal justice reform measures; and

**WHEREAS**, the County Board of FORD COUNTY joins the Chief's Association, the Illinois Sheriff's Association, the Illinois State's Attorney's Association, the Illinois Police Benevolent and Protective Association and the Fraternal Order of Police in expressing sincere disappointment over the passage of this Bill during a lame duck legislative session in the early morning hours of January 13<sup>th</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, while not exhaustive, the following is an example of some of the provisions of the bill that are of great concern to the County Board:

- A. Elimination of Cash Bail; and
- B. Allowance of anonymous complaints about the Ford County Sheriff 's deputies to the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board; and
- C. Addition of conflicting/confusing language regarding when a police officer may lawfully engage in the use of force which may result in increased injuries of police officers; and
- D. Addition of restrictions on the Ford County Sheriff's Office and deputies' ability to obtain equipment; and
- E. Creation of numerous unfunded mandates on Illinois counties and municipalities; and

**WHEREAS**, the County finds it to be in the best interest of the health, safety, morals, and general welfare of its citizens to express its genuine concern about the effects of this bill on the safety of the citizens of FORD COUNTY and requests that Governor J.B. Pritzker veto House Bill 3653.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY BOARD OF FORD COUNTY, ILLINOIS** as follows:

Section 1. The foregoing recitals shall be and are hereby incorporated in this Section 1 as if said recitals were fully set forth.

Section 2. That the COUNTY of FORD hereby requests Governor J.B. Pritzker to veto House Bill 3653 and thereafter provide local governments an opportunity to provide meaningful input on the effects of the legislation on the safety of Ford County residents and, members of the Ford County Sheriff's Office and deputies.

Section 3. That the County Board Chairman and County Clerk and Recorder, on behalf FORD COUNTY, are authorized to execute such documents and all other documents necessary to forward a copy of this Resolution to Governor J.B. Pritzker, members of the FORD COUNTY legislative delegation and members of the Sheriff's Office.

Section 4. If any section, paragraph, clause, or provision of this Resolution shall be held invalid, said invalidity shall not affect any other provision of the Resolution.

Section 5. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon its passage and approval in the manner provided by law.

Section 6. That this Resolution is being passed pursuant to the authority of FORD COUNTY as given by Section 6 of Article VII of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, as amended.

RESOLVED BY THE FORD COUNTY BOARD, FORD COUNTY, ILLINOIS this 8<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021.

  
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Amy Frederick, County Clerk and Recorder

APPROVED this 8<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021.

  
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Debbie Smith, Chairman

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