MISCELLANEOUS RESOLUTION: #19214

BY: Commissioners Dave T. Woodward, District #19; Christine Long, District #7; Gary McGillivray, District #20; Penny Luebs, District #16

IN RE: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS – DECLARATION OF SUPPORT FOR THE REGISTERED NURSES’ OF BEAUMONT ROYAL OAK RIGHT TO ORGANIZE WITHOUT COERCION, INTIMIDATION OR OTHER INFLUENCE

To the Oakland County Board of Commissioners
Chairperson, Ladies and Gentlemen:

WHEREAS registered nurses at Beaumont Royal Oak are committed to advocating for their patients and securing the ability to provide the best care possible at all times; and

WHEREAS Beaumont Royal Oak RNs have come together to form their union with the Michigan Nurses Association (MNA) in order to have a voice in their practice and working conditions; and

WHEREAS it is all workers’ right to determine for themselves whether to join a union, and that process should take place without the employer’s coercion, intimidation or other influence; and

WHEREAS nurses report that Beaumont Royal Oak is engaged in activities such as removing nurses from their patient care duties to attend meetings by outside consultants sharing anti-union information; and

WHEREAS the resources of the nonprofit Beaumont Royal Oak should be directed at supporting patient care, not paying consultants/companies to defeat their employees’ organizing drive; and

WHEREAS the health and well-being of Beaumont patients and the rights of Beaumont employees are of concern to all in Oakland County.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Oakland County Commission urges Beaumont Royal Oak to cease and desist its anti-union activities and demonstrate neutrality in the nurses’ organizing drive while ensuring that all meetings by Beaumont and MNA, both individual and group, are strictly voluntary and done outside work hours.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the spirit of American democracy, both MNA and Beaumont should respect the right of registered nurses to make a decision regarding unionization in an atmosphere free of intimidation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in order to protect patients, there should be nothing related to the organizing drive that interferes with work and no one should be taken away from patient care duties while at work to discuss it.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Beaumont is urged to provide a work environment free of coercion, misinformation, intimidation and outside influence regarding the nurses’ organizing drive.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Oakland County Clerk is requested to forward copies of this resolution to Beaumont Health CEO John Fox and Beaumont Royal Oak President Nancy Susick.

Chairperson, we move the adoption of the foregoing resolution.
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The Chairperson referred the resolution to the Legislative Affairs and Government Operations Committee. There were no objections.