



A D M I N I S T R A T I V E      O F F I C E S

Mayor                    **Robert F. Paul III**                    Commissioner **Michelle Elder**  
Mayor Pro-Tem **Jules Olsman**                    Commissioner **Joe Rozell**  
City Manager **Amy Sullivan**                    Commissioner **Jeff Jenks**

February 18, 2021

Rep. Julie Calley  
N-1191 House Office Building  
JulieCalley@haous.mi.gov

Dear Representative Calley,

The City of Huntington Woods is aware Senate Bill 17 was introduced to amend PA 317 of 1968. As currently written, PA 317 allows an elected official to also serve as a part-time firefighter in communities under 25,000 in population.

Senate Bill 17 would modify these provisions to increase the population ceiling from less than 25,000 to less than 40,000. The proposed bill would also allow an elected official to serve as a fire chief, police officer, chief of police, or public safety officer in units of government that met the population criteria, provided he or she did not negotiate collective bargaining agreements with the municipality on behalf of the firefighters, fire chiefs, police officers, chiefs of police, or public safety officers union.

The bill creates serious potential conflict of interest scenarios in terms of compensation and supervision. By allowing a full-time government employee, such as a Police Chief or Fire Chief to serve on the governing board, they will effectively be part of the group supervising themselves. It also allows these full-time (compensation and benefits) employees to vote on their own union contracts or compensation as a member of the governing board!

The Huntington Woods City Commission unanimously agreed at the February 2, 2021 City Commission meeting that this legislation is not in the best interest of the City and takes a formal position of opposition to Senate Bill 17.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Mayor Bob Paul,