NEMCOG
Northeast Michigan Council of Governments

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RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Industrial hemp refers to the non-drug oilseed and fiber varieties of *Cannabis* which are cultivated exclusively for fiber, stalk and seed. Industrial hemp is genetically distinct from the drug varieties of *Cannabis*, also known as marihuana. Industrial hemp has less than three tenths of one percent of the psychoactive ingredient, tetrahydrocannabinol (THC). The flowering tops of industrial hemp cannot produce any drug effect when smoked or ingested; and

WHEREAS, The reluctance of the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to permit industrial hemp farming is denying agricultural producers in this country the ability to benefit from a high-value, low-input crop, which can provide significant economic benefits to producers and manufacturers; and

WHEREAS, The DEA has the authority under the Controlled Substance Act to allow Michigan to regulate industrial hemp farming under state law and without requiring individual federal applications and licenses.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments that we memorialize Congress and the administration to recognize industrial hemp as a valuable agricultural commodity and to take steps to remove barriers in order to encourage the commercial production of this crop; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we urge the Michigan Legislature to pass legislation to regulate industrial hemp farming under state laws and regulations without requiring federal applications, licenses, or fees.

Moved by Tom Trimmer, seconded by Dave Post
To approve the above resolution at a regular meeting of the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments held on June 16, 2011 and passed by a vote of:

Ayes 11 Nays 1 Abstain ____

Attested by Robert R. Nill

Witnessed by Patricia Papenduck

Date: June 15, 2011

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