

**AURORA TOWNSHIP
KANE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**RESOLUTION 2018-20
OPPOSING THE RECOMMENDATION
OF THE KANE COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, the Kane County Mental Health Advisory Committee, an unelected citizens' advisory panel, is recommending a countywide 708 board to serve Kane County; and

WHEREAS, the voters of Aurora Township in 1970 approved a referendum to support mental health services via what is known as a 708 board and similar referendums passed successfully in five other Kane County townships at that time; and

WHEREAS, voters in two cities as well as a Kane County township later established 708 boards; and

WHEREAS, the Kane County Mental Health Advisory Committee (the Committee) formed as a result of state legislation in 2013 and stated in its initial report to Kane County that it recommended unanimously to establish a countywide 708 board; and

WHEREAS, for its latest report in 2018, the Committee did not seek the opinion of anyone at Aurora Township, which is by far the largest public funder of the 708 boards in Kane County; and

WHEREAS, the Aurora Township Board of Trustees believes that its residents are well served by our local 708 board and the INC Board as it stands now and has voted to increase our levies for the past 12 years; and

WHEREAS, the Committee is trying to frame its recommendation as some sort of "consolidation" proposal when, in reality, 708 boards do not exist in approximately 40 percent of Kane County; and

WHEREAS, we appreciate the Committee's intent to increase funding for mental health services throughout Kane County, we also believe that the Committee's recommendation for a countywide 708 board has a significant potential to degrade existing services for the residents of Aurora Township.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Aurora Township Board of Trustees calls upon the Kane County Board to reject the recommendation of a countywide 708 Board from the Kane County Mental Health Advisory Committee and respectfully suggests that townships and communities in the northern part of Kane County seek to pass a 708 referendum as we have.