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**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 1954 AUTHORIZING COUNTY-LEVEL
RECALL OF COUNTY-WIDE OFFICIALS**

WHEREAS, the Sangamon County Board recognizes the importance of accountability and transparency in county government and the necessity for voters to have a mechanism to recall countywide officials when warranted; and

WHEREAS, the Massey Commission recommended that the Sangamon County Board evaluate the constitutional and statutory pathways for authorizing a referendum on the question of recall for the Office of the Sangamon County Sheriff and take all legally authorized steps to effectuate such a referendum at the earliest possible election; and

WHEREAS, for months, residents of Sangamon County have expressed a strong desire for a recall mechanism to further hold elected officials accountable and restore public trust in countywide office holders; and

WHEREAS, after thorough research conducted by the State's Attorney's Office, Illinois Constitutional Law experts, and the State Board of Elections, it was confirmed that under current Illinois law, non-home rule counties like Sangamon lack the legal authority to establish a recall process for countywide officials; and

WHEREAS, the County Board has taken the appropriate action by acknowledging these legal constraints and committing to working through the proper legislative channels rather than misleading the public with unenforceable measures; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1954, filed in the 104th Illinois General Assembly by State Senator Doris Turner, would grant counties the authority to adopt a recall process for all countywide officials, ensuring voters have a direct means to hold their elected officials accountable; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1954 would provide counties with clear and direct authority to establish a recall process for countywide officials, an authority that was previously lacking under state law; and

WHEREAS, a majority of the County Board has expressed that they are not opposed to the concept of recall, they simply lacked the legal authority to do so under current law, and the filing of Senate Bill 1954 acknowledges this limitation while confirming the need for legislative action to grant counties this authority; and

WHEREAS, if Senate Bill 1954 is passed and signed into law, it is the intent of the Sangamon County Board to move forward with proposing the recall question to Sangamon County voters, as outlined in the legislation; and

WHEREAS, the Sangamon County Board strongly encourages all members of the Illinois General Assembly representing Sangamon County or portions thereof to support Senate Bill 1954.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 11th day of February, 2025, that the Sangamon County Board formally expresses its support for Senate Bill 1954 and urges its passage and enactment into law.

Approved by the _____ Election Oversight Committee _____ February 11, 2025 _____

_____, Chairman

ATTEST:

County Clerk

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FEB 07 2025

Andy Goleman
SANGAMON COUNTY AUDITOR

FILED

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Don Massey
Sangamon County Clerk