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TO: The Detroit City Council

FROM: David D. Whitaker
Legislative Policy Division Staff

DATE: June 8, 2020

RE: Resolution to support proposed legislation to prevent COVID-19 positive patients from being housed in the same facilities as COVID-19 negative patients.

The Honorable Council President Brenda Jones requested the Legislative Policy Division to draft a resolution in support proposed legislation to prevent COVID-19 positive patients from being housed in the same facilities as COVID-19 negative patients.

The draft resolution is attached for your review.

BY HONORABLE COUNCIL PRESIDENT BRENDA JONES

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT PREVENTION OF POSITIVE COVID-19 PATIENTS
PLACED IN NURSING HOMES WITH COVID-19 NEGATIVE PATIENTS

WHEREAS, The City of Detroit continues to respond proactively with preventative measures to help slow the spread of coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, Michigan's emergency policy of housing positive COVID-19 nursing home patients in nursing homes with COVID-19 negative patients, expired on May 13, 2020. Many residents and lawmakers are calling for the governor to eliminate the policy indefinitely; and

WHEREAS, It is counterintuitive to knowingly fuse positive and negative patients in one setting, regardless of chronological age or pre-existing health conditions. The mode in which this virus spread is unpredictable and should be treated with alarm. Nevertheless, the top priority in battling this public health crisis should be implementing practices which completely insulate the spread of the coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, The Detroit City Council will continue to work with our local, state and national leaders and partners as well as top advisers from the medical community to make informed decisions to help protect all residents. **BE IT**

RESOLVED, That the Detroit City Council strongly urges the Whitmer administration to bar admittance of seniors who are positive for COVID-19 to regional hubs, which are nursing homes, where the policy says there has to be separation of COVID-19 positive and negative patients. **BE IT FINALLY**

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Gov. Whitmer, Michigan House Committee on Health Policy, Senate Oversight Committee, the Committee on Health Policy and Human Services, and the Detroit delegation in the Michigan Legislature.