

RESOLUTION NO: 2024-07

**PUTNAM COUNTY DECLARES IT IS A NON-SANCTUARY COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, Article 1, Section of the United States Constitution gives Congress the Power to establish a uniform rule of naturalization, and;

**WHEREAS** it is the duty of Congress to establish all laws and rules regarding naturalization, and;

**WHEREAS** the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the United States Constitution was ratified on July 9, 1869, and granted citizenship to “all persons born or naturalized in the United States” are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Putnam County Board believes in the rule of law, including illegal immigration law; and

**WHEREAS**, the immigration and naturalization on illegal immigrants is a function of and under the control of the United States government; and

**WHEREAS**, the federal government’s refusal to enforce current immigration laws could jeopardize the health, safety and welfare of our residents and could further impose a financial burden on our citizens while being unfair to those seeking legal entry into the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the federal government’s refusal to enforce said immigration laws often results in the exploitation of illegal immigrants and further hinders the legal process of naturalization; and,

**WHEREAS**, Putnam County has limited taxpayer resources, which we are obligated to use in service of our lawful U.S. citizen constituents; and

**WHEREAS**, Putnam County, through the passing of its budget, has provided for its citizens as best it is able within its financial taxpayer income; and

**WHEREAS**, Putnam County does not possess sufficient monetary funds or infrastructure to accommodate the many possible needs of illegal immigrants arriving by any means of transportation; and

**WHEREAS** the volume of asylum seekers in voluntary Sanctuary Cities are reportedly overwhelming social service agencies and straining community resources and;


**WHEREAS** Putnam County by declaring itself a **NON-SANCTUARY COUNTY** pledges and re-dedicates its limited resources to its residents in need: Senior, families living below the poverty level, veterans, homeless, and all those in need of Social Services already here in Putnam County, legally.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the County Board of Putnam County, Illinois that Putnam County is a non-sanctuary county and believes it cannot financially accommodate any influx of illegal immigrants if dropped off in Putnam County and the many possible needs they may have, while recognizing Putnam County will humanitarily assist in such an emergency as it can, on a temporary basis with no intent to house such persons beyond the time necessary to arrange transportation to more suitable destination, and;


**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, Putnam County is committed to following its All-Hazard Plan to address various situations, including illegal immigrants.

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** this 11<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024 at HENNEPIN ILLINOIS.

ATTEST:



Tina Dolder, Clerk & Recorder  
Putnam County Illinois



Charles Lenkaitas, Chairman  
Putnam County Board, Chairman