



first glance

A CITIZEN'S GUIDE TO STATE GOVERNMENT

95th Legislature
2009-2010

Dear Citizen:

It is of primary importance that the general public increase its participation in the decision-making process. In order to actuate this input, the citizen must acquire an understanding of the legislative structure and process and then organize concerted efforts to effectively demand representation.

Individuals can have an impact on specific legislative proposals, provided it is made at the appropriate time. Organized community and citizens' groups can multiply the impact of that individual effort.

Organizing citizens' groups to deal with specific community problems is extremely important. Such groups provide a focal point from which citizens can participate in the decision-making process and influence legislation.

The intent of *A Citizen's Guide to State Government—First Glance* is to provide basic information about your newly elected government officials. This booklet also includes an updated listing of State agencies and other very helpful information. A more detailed version of this booklet will be printed as more information becomes available.

**A
CITIZEN'S GUIDE
TO
STATE GOVERNMENT**

— *FIRST GLANCE* —

2009-2010 MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE

January 2009

Prepared by the Michigan Legislature
www.legislature.mi.gov

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CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

“An informed and active citizenry is the lifeblood of a democracy.”

It is important in a democracy that citizens help keep their legislators informed. In order to be true representatives of the people, legislators need to know the thinking of their constituents on those issues upon which decisions will be made, and the facts on which such thinking and conclusions are based. As a citizen, *you* can help insure good legislation on state and national levels by communicating with your elected representatives at the proper time.

Too many people never have any contact with those who represent them in government—whose vote may decide what price they will pay for the acts of government, sometimes in terms of dollars, or in changes in standards of living, or in regulatory inconveniences.

Is There a Bill or an Issue of Particular Concern to You? Organize!

Forming a group to lobby for or against legislation is often more effective than individual efforts. A group is far more visible, has greater resources, and carries more political weight.

Organize a group of friends, co-workers, or neighbors around a specific issue of concern to all of you. Define your goals . . . identify tasks that are part of the plan . . . divide the work. (For instance, one person can research available material, another can keep track of the bill, several can attend all committee meetings, several can personally meet with the legislator, etc.) . . . KEEP INFORMED.

It is best for the group to meet informally or socially with legislators even before the group has specific legislative requests to make. Professional lobbyists specifically suggest this kind of personalized, informal contact. Friendly, personal acquaintance, and help at campaign time, form a strong basis for personal, or group, lobbying efforts.

Learn how the system works . . . find out how a bill becomes a law . . . learn the committee structure . . . find out which legislators are dealing with your area of concern . . . find out when and how to lobby. ALL THIS INFORMATION IS TO BE FOUND IN THIS GUIDE.

If you are interested in becoming actively involved in influencing legislation, here are some important points that will make your lobbying efforts more effective:

Personal Contacts

Personal contacts can be a meaningful way to influence a legislator.

1. Before contacting any legislators, take the time to read all available background material on the bill or issue which concerns you. Although it is obviously beneficial for you to know a great deal about the specifics of bills and issues, it is not essential that you know everything. The primary goal of your visit is to express your concern over a particular bill or issue.
2. Know when and where to contact a legislator. The best times to find a legislator in the office in Lansing are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. (House sessions are normally held on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. and Thursdays at 12:00 noon, while Senate sessions normally begin at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.)

It is usually possible, when the House and Senate are in session, to send in a message to legislators informing them that you wish to speak with them. Check from the visitors balconies on the third floor (using the seating charts in this book) to see if the legislator you wish to meet with is in the chamber. The sergeant-at-arms on the second floor in front of each chamber will send your message to the Representative or Senator. It is generally, but *not always*, possible for a legislator to come out to meet briefly with you.

Occasionally, legislators will be able to see you if you simply walk into their office, but the best approach is to call ahead and make an appointment. Let the legislator know what you wish to discuss. If you cannot get an appointment, or if the matter is too urgent to wait for an appointment, do not hesitate to go to the office anyway. You may at least be able to talk to staff, and you will have made them aware of your concern.

Calling your own legislator at home on the weekend sometimes makes sense on an issue of great importance or urgency. *Don't abuse* this method of contact.

3. If you have genuine expert knowledge, share it with the legislator. It will be welcomed. No legislator can be an expert on everything. (All views are important, but expertise is especially valued. Remember, any lobbyist's most useful role for a legislator is as a source of information.) If you have read the bill carefully and/or understand the issues involved as a result of personal knowledge or research, you may be of great assistance to the legislator.
4. Be constructive. If a bill deals with a problem you admit exists, but you believe the bill is the wrong approach, explain what you believe is the right approach. If you want to suggest amendments to a bill that has been introduced, it is important that you have: a) a clear idea of what you want to be included or deleted; b) the reasons to justify the proposed change; and c) good, strong facts to back up your position before you contact your legislator. If possible, leave copies of your position and/or suggested changes with the legislator.
5. It is usually a waste of time (for both of you) to lobby legislators who are already supporting your position, although they may be helpful in making suggestions for your lobbying efforts.
6. You do not need a crowd to lobby. One, or possibly two, well-informed lobbyists on the same subject are more effective and less confusing than a large group gathered at the same time.
7. When you introduce yourself, save time by making it clear who you are and what organization, if any, you are working with. If you are cooperating with some group from the legislator's home district, mention it and the fact that the home district group may also be trying to reach the legislator.
8. Do not "overkill." Most legislators have many demands on their time. An elaborate sales job or long, emotional speech will not be appreciated. They do, however, want your well-prepared facts and views, presented in a straightforward manner. Make sure their time is well spent in talking to you. Stick to the issues that you came to discuss; don't wander into other issues.
9. It is easy, particularly when dealing with legislators who disagree with you, to become angry and frustrated. If you disagree, a calm, reasonable attitude and a set of well-prepared reasons for your position may change their minds on the issue. It is generally advisable not to get into arguments which may trigger prejudices. Remember, you may not have all the facts on an issue or bill.

Let legislators explain their views—listen without interrupting—they often have input from many resources to which you may not have access, such as fiscal agencies, state departments, other groups with expertise on the issue, and legislation from other states.

Take a few notes about their comments, noting any questions they have. Give the answers you know, and offer to get answers to the other questions, if possible. Understanding their views of the facts and where they come from will help your organization develop counterarguments.

10. Don't demand a commitment before the facts are in. Give your legislator a fair chance to examine all sides of an issue.

The legislative process is very complex, and bills change their shape in committee and on the floor of both houses of the Legislature. A bill rarely becomes law in the same form as introduced. It is possible that the bill you supported originally is so changed in the process that you would oppose its final form.

A legislator may be forced to vote on the bill as a whole, weighing the good with the bad and the needs of all constituents and/or the state as a whole, rather than those of a particular group or individual.

Letter Writing and E-Mail

A personal letter or message via e-mail or the Internet may be the most effective way of contacting your legislator, whether in Lansing or Washington. Consult the Congressional (p. 4), House (p. 31), and Senate (p. 53) directories in this guide to find the addresses of Michigan legislators.

If you're new at this type of letter writing, here are some suggestions on how your letters can be most effective:

1. **ADDRESS IT PROPERLY:** Know your legislator's full name and correct spelling. For specific addresses, see individual lists. Examples:

U.S. SENATOR
The Honorable (full name)
United States Senator
Address

Dear Senator (last name):

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE
The Honorable (full name)
United States Representative
Address

Dear Congressman/woman (last name):

STATE SENATOR
The Honorable (full name)
State Senator
State Capitol
P.O. Box 30036
Lansing, MI 48909-7536

Dear Senator (last name):

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
The Honorable (full name)
State Representative
State Capitol
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

Dear Representative (last name):

2. ALWAYS INCLUDE YOUR LAST NAME AND ADDRESS ON THE LETTER ITSELF (printed or typed). A letter cannot be answered if there is no return address or the signature is not legible.
3. USE YOUR OWN WORDS. Avoid form letters and petitions. They tend to be identified as organized pressure campaigns and are often answered with form replies. However, a petition *does* let the legislator know that the issue is of concern to a large number of people (addresses with zip codes should be given for each signature). One thoughtful, factual, and well-reasoned letter carries more weight than 100 form letters or printed postcards.
4. TIME THE ARRIVAL OF YOUR LETTER. Try to write to your legislator, and the chairperson of the committee dealing with a bill, while a bill is still in committee and there is still time to take effective action. Sometimes a bill is out of committee, or has been passed, before a helpful, informative letter arrives which *could* have made a difference in the way the bill was written or in the final decision.
5. KNOW WHAT YOU ARE WRITING ABOUT. Identify the bill or issue of concern to you. Thousands of bills and resolutions are introduced in each session. If you write about a bill, try to give the bill number or describe it by popular title, such as “the Whistleblower’s Act,” or “the School Code.”
6. BE REASONABLY BRIEF. Many issues are complex, but a single page, presenting your opinions, facts, arguments, or proposals as clearly as possible, is preferred and welcomed by most legislators.
7. GIVE REASONS FOR YOUR POSITION. Explain how the issue would affect you, your family, business, or profession—or the effect on your community or our state. If you have specialized knowledge, SHARE IT WITH YOUR LEGISLATOR. Concrete, expert arguments for or against the bill can be used by the legislator in determining the final outcome of a bill.
8. BE CONSTRUCTIVE. If a bill deals with a problem you admit exists, but you believe the bill is the wrong approach, explain what you believe to be the right approach.
9. GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS SHOULD DETERMINE THEIR PRIORITY CONCERNS and contact the legislator on those *specific* issues rather than on *every* issue. The “pen pal” who writes every few days on every conceivable subject tends to become a nuisance, rather than an effective voice of concern.
10. YOU MAY NOT ALWAYS RECEIVE A LONG, DETAILED RESPONSE to your letter. Legislators are very busy and usually cannot respond with long, personal replies to each correspondent.
11. WRITE A LETTER OF APPRECIATION when you feel a legislator has done a good job. Legislators are human too and seldom receive “thank you” letters of encouragement.

Remember, on any one issue, even a few letters to one legislator can have an important impact. Sometimes just one letter, with a new perspective, or with clear-cut, persuasive arguments can be the decisive factor in a legislator’s action.

* * * * *

If you decide you want to be further involved in the future of a particular bill, KEEP TRACK OF THE BILL. Consider testifying on it before a committee. There may also be a public hearing on it in your area.

INFORMATION ABOUT ELECTED PUBLIC OFFICIALS REPRESENTING YOU IN WASHINGTON, DC

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

(4-year term) Term Ends: 1-20-2013
BARACK OBAMA (D–Illinois)
 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
 Washington, DC 20500

VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

(4-year term) Term Ends: 1-20-2013
JOE BIDEN (D–Delaware)
 17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
 Washington, DC 20500

**Contact Information
 During Transition:**
 change.gov

111TH CONGRESS UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVES

(2-year term, all expire on 1-1-11
 (8 Democrats and 7 Republicans)



DAVE CAMP (R–Midland, District 4)
 137 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515
www.house.gov/camp
 (202) 225-3561 Fax (202) 225-9679

DISTRICT OFFICES:	
#1 135 Ashman, Midland, MI 48640	(989) 631-2552 Fax (989) 631-6271 Toll-Free (800) 342-2455
#2 121 E. Front Street, Suite 202, Traverse City, MI 49684	(231) 929-4711 Fax (231) 929-4776



JOHN CONYERS, JR. (D–Detroit, District 14)
 2426 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515
John.Conyers@mail.house.gov
 (202) 225-5126 Fax (202) 225-0072

DISTRICT OFFICES:	
#1 669 Federal Building, 231 W. Lafayette Blvd., Detroit, MI 48226	(313) 961-5670 Fax (313) 226-2085
#2 2615 W. Jefferson, Trenton, MI 48183	(734) 675-4084 Fax (734) 675-4218

JOHN D. DINGELL (D–Dearborn, District 15)
 2328 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515
 Public.Dingell@mail.house.gov
 (202) 225-4071 Fax (202) 226-0371



DISTRICT OFFICES:

- | | | |
|----|--|----------------|
| #1 | 19855 W. Outer Drive, Suite 103E, Dearborn, MI 48124..... | (313) 278-2936 |
| #2 | 23 E. Front Street, Suite 103, Monroe, MI 48161..... | (734) 243-1849 |
| #3 | 301 W. Michigan Avenue, Suite 305, Ypsilanti, MI 48197 | (734) 481-1100 |

VERNON J. EHLERS (R–Grand Rapids, District 3)
 2182 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515
 E-Mail: www.house.gov/writerep
 Website: www.house.gov/Ehlers
 (202) 225-3831 Fax (202) 225-5144



DISTRICT OFFICE:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Gerald R. Ford Federal Building, 110 Michigan Street, N.W.,
Grand Rapids, MI 49503..... | (616) 451-8383
Fax (616) 454-5630 |
|--|--------------------------------------|

PETER HOEKSTRA (R–Holland, District 2)
 2234 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515
<http://hoekstra.house.gov>
 (202) 225-4401 Fax (202) 226-0779



DISTRICT OFFICES:

- | | | |
|----|--|--------------------------------------|
| #1 | 184 S. River Avenue, Holland, MI 49423 | (616) 395-0030
Fax (616) 395-0271 |
| #2 | 900 3rd Street, Suite 203, Muskegon, MI 49440..... | (231) 722-8386
Fax (231) 722-0176 |
| #3 | 210½ N. Mitchell Street, Cadillac, MI 49601 | (231) 775-0050
Fax (231) 775-0298 |



DALE E. KILDEE (D–Flint, District 5)
 2107 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515
 DKildee@mail.house.gov
 (202) 225-3611 Fax (202) 225-6393

DISTRICT OFFICES:		
		Toll-Free (800) 662-2685
#1	432 N. Saginaw Street, Suite 410, Flint, MI 48502.....	(810) 239-1437
		Fax (810) 239-1439
#2	515 N. Washington Avenue, Suite 401, Saginaw, MI 48607.....	(989) 755-8904
		Fax (989) 755-8908
#3	916 Washington Avenue, Suite 205, Bay City, MI 48708.....	(989) 891-0990
		Fax (989) 891-0994



CAROLYN CHEEKS KILPATRICK (D–Detroit, District 13)
 2264 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515
<http://www.house.gov/kilpatrick>
 (202) 225-2261 Fax (202) 225-5730

DISTRICT OFFICES:		
#1	1274 Library Street, Suite 1-B, Detroit, MI 48226.....	(313) 965-9004
		Fax (313) 965-9006
#2	3005 Biddle Street, Room A, Wyandotte, MI 48192.....	(734) 246-0780
		Fax (734) 246-1148



SANDER LEVIN (D–Southfield, District 12)
 1236 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515
 slevin@mail.house.gov
 (202) 225-4961 Toll-Free (888) 810-3880 Fax (202) 226-1033

DISTRICT OFFICE:		
	Regional Gratiot Avenue Office, 27085 Gratiot Avenue, Roseville, MI 48066.....	(586) 498-7122
		Fax (586) 498-7123

THADDEUS G. McCOTTER (R–Livonia, District 11)
1632 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515
Thaddeus.McCotter@mail.house.gov
(202) 225-8171 Fax (202) 225-2667



DISTRICT OFFICES:
17197 N. Laurel Park Drive, Suite 216, Livonia, MI 48152..... (734) 632-0314
Fax (734) 632-0373
213 W. Huron Street, Milford, MI 48381 (248) 685-9495
Fax (248) 685-9484

CANDICE S. MILLER (R–Harrison Township, District 10)
228 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-2106 Fax (202) 226-1169



DISTRICT OFFICE:
48653 Van Dyke Avenue, Shelby Township, MI 48317 (586) 997-5010
Fax (586) 997-5013

GARY PETERS (D–Bloomfield Township, District 9)
1130 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-5802 Fax (202) 226-2356



DISTRICT OFFICE:
P.O. Box 226, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303 (248) 737-2692



MIKE ROGERS (R–Brighton, District 8)
133 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515
www.mikerogers.house.gov
(202) 225-4872 Fax (202) 225-5820

DISTRICT OFFICE:

1327 E. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, MI 48912..... (517) 702-8000
Fax (517) 702-8642
Toll-Free (877) 333-MIKE



MARK SCHAUER (D–Battle Creek, District 7)
1408 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-6276 Fax (202) 225-6281

DISTRICT OFFICE:

800 W. Ganson Street, Jackson, MI 49202 (517) 780-9075
Fax (517) 780-9081

BART STUPAK (D–Menominee, District 1)
 2352 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515
www.house.gov/stupak (e-mail through website)
 (202) 225-4735 Fax (202) 225-4744
 Toll-Free (Michigan only) 800-950-7371



DISTRICT OFFICES:

- | | |
|---|---|
| #1 111 E. Chisholm, Alpena, MI 49707 | (989) 356-0690
Fax (989) 356-0923 |
| #2 Iron County Courthouse,
2 S. 6th Street, Suite 3, Crystal Falls, MI 49920 | (906) 875-3751
Fax (906) 875-3889
Mon. and Tues. |
| #3 902 Ludington Street, Escanaba, MI 49829..... | (906) 786-4504
Fax (906) 786-4534 |
| #4 616 Sheldon Avenue, Room 213, Houghton, MI 49931 | (906) 482-1371
Fax (906) 482-4855
Mon.-Thurs. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. |
| #5 1229 W. Washington Street, Marquette, MI 49855..... | (906) 228-3700
Fax (906) 228-2305 |
| #6 Emmet County Building,
200 Division Street, Suite 178, Petoskey, MI 49770 | (231) 348-0657
Fax (231) 348-0653 |
| #7 575 Court Street, West Branch, MI 48661..... | (989) 345-2258
Fax (989) 345-2285 |

FRED S. UPTON (R–St. Joseph, District 6)
 2183 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515
www.house.gov/upton
 (202) 225-3761 Fax (202) 225-4986



DISTRICT OFFICES:

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| #1 157 S. Kalamazoo Mall, Suite 180, Kalamazoo, MI 49007..... | (269) 385-0039
Fax (269) 385-2888 |
| #2 800 Centre, Suite 106, 800 Ship Street, St. Joseph, MI 49085 | (269) 982-1986
Fax (269) 982-0237 |

UNITED STATES SENATORS

(6-year term, overlapping)



CARL LEVIN (D–Detroit)
269 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone: (202) 224-6221
Fax: (202) 224-1388
www.levin.senate.gov
Term Ends: 1-1-2015

DISTRICT OFFICES:

Patrick V. McNamara Federal Building, 477 Michigan Avenue, Suite 1860, Detroit, MI 48226	(313) 226-6020 Fax (313) 226-6948
524 Ludington, Suite LL-103, Escanaba, MI 49829	(906) 789-0052 Fax (906) 789-0015
Gerald R. Ford Federal Building, 110 Michigan Street, N.W., Suite 720, Grand Rapids, MI 49503	(616) 456-2531 Fax (616) 456-5147
124 W. Allegan Street, Suite 1810, Lansing, MI 48933	(517) 377-1508 Fax (517) 377-1506
515 N. Washington Avenue, Suite 402, Saginaw, MI 48607	(989) 754-2494 Fax (989) 754-2920
107 Cass Street, Suite E, Traverse City, MI 49684	(231) 947-9569 Fax (231) 947-9518
30500 Van Dyke Avenue, Suite 206, Warren, MI 48093	(586) 573-9145 Fax (586) 573-8260



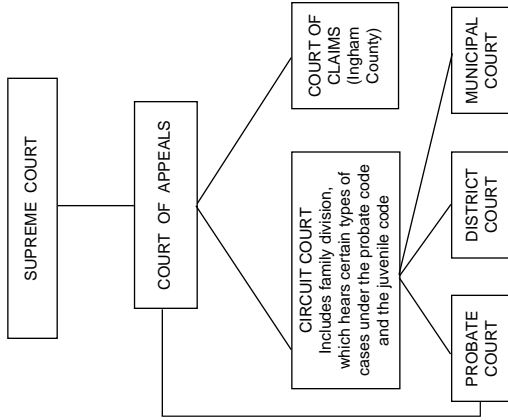
DEBBIE STABENOW (D–Lansing)
133 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone: (202) 224-4822
Fax: (202) 228-0325
www.stabenow.senate.gov
Term Ends: 1-1-2013

DISTRICT OFFICES:

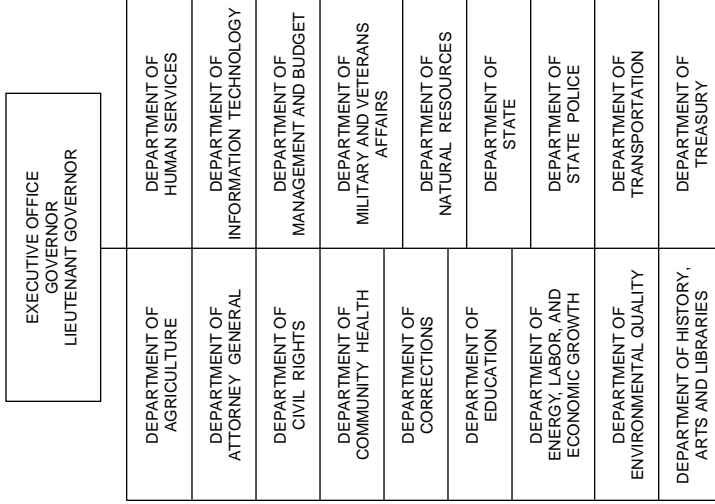
243 W. Congress, Suite 550, Detroit, MI 48226	(313) 961-4330
221 W. Lake Lansing Road, Suite 100, East Lansing, MI 48823	(517) 203-1760
432 N. Saginaw Street, Suite 301, Flint, MI 48532	(810) 424-6620
3280 Beltline Court, Suite 400, Grand Rapids, MI 49525	(616) 975-0052
1901 W. Ridge, Marquette, MI 49855	(906) 228-8756
3335 S. Airport Road West, Suite 6B, Traverse City, MI 49684	(231) 929-1031

THE THREE BRANCHES OF MICHIGAN STATE GOVERNMENT

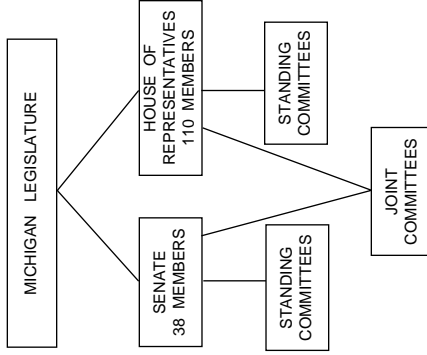
JUDICIAL BRANCH



EXECUTIVE BRANCH



LEGISLATIVE BRANCH



INFORMATION ABOUT ELECTED PUBLIC OFFICIALS REPRESENTING YOU AT THE STATE LEVEL

In addition to the Governor and Lieutenant Governor, Michigan's voters elect two other executive branch officials statewide—the Secretary of State and Attorney General. While candidates for the Office of Governor are chosen in the August primary election, candidates for the others are nominated at the regular party conventions. All of these officials are elected concurrently to four-year terms in the even-numbered year between presidential elections (voters cast one vote jointly for Governor and Lieutenant Governor). An amendment to the Constitution adopted by the voters in 1992 limits these elected executives to two terms (eight years). This limitation applies to terms of office beginning on or after January 1, 1993.



GOVERNOR OF MICHIGAN (4-year term)
JENNIFER GRANHOLM (D–Northville)
Term Ends: 1-1-11
State Capitol
P.O. Box 30013
Lansing, MI 48909



LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR (4-year term)
JOHN D. CHERRY, JR. (D–Clio)
Term Ends: 1-1-11
State Capitol
P.O. Box 30026
Lansing, MI 48909



SECRETARY OF STATE (4-year term)
TERRI LYNN LAND (R–Byron Center)
Term Ends: 1-1-11
Treasury Building
P.O. Box 30045
Lansing, MI 48918



ATTORNEY GENERAL (4-year term)
MIKE COX (R–Livonia)
Term Ends: 1-1-11
G. Mennen Williams State Office Building
P.O. Box 30212
Lansing, MI 48909

THE MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT

The Supreme Court is the highest court in the state, hearing cases appealed to it from the Court of Appeals. In addition to its judicial duties, the Supreme Court is responsible for the general administrative supervision of all courts in the state. The Supreme Court also establishes rules for practice and procedure in all courts.

The Supreme Court consists of seven justices: the Chief Justice and six Associate Justices. The justices are elected to serve eight-year terms. Every two years one justice is selected by the court as chief justice. Although justices are nominated by political parties, they are elected on a nonpartisan ballot. A candidate for the Supreme Court must be a qualified elector, licensed to practice law in Michigan, and at the time of election must be less than 70 years of age.

[A new Chief Justice was not selected prior to the printing of this publication.]



ELIZABETH A. WEAVER
(Traverse City)
Term Ends: 1-1-2011



ROBERT P. YOUNG, JR.
(Detroit)
Term Ends: 1-1-2011



MARILYN KELLY
(Bloomfield Hills)
Term Ends: 1-1-2013



STEPHEN J. MARKMAN
(Mason)
Term Ends: 1-1-2013



MICHAEL F. CAVANAGH
(East Lansing)
Term Ends: 1-1-2015



MAURA D. CORRIGAN
(Grosse Pointe Park)
Term Ends: 1-1-2015



DIANE HATHAWAY
(Grosse Pointe Park)
Term Ends: 1-1-2017



YOUR MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE

Michigan's Legislature is a sovereign and independent branch of state government vested with the power to enact laws by which the actions of the government and the people are regulated and protected.



The first Michigan Legislature, consisting of 16 Senators and 50 Representatives, met in the first Capitol in Detroit, which served as our state's capital city until 1847, when it was moved permanently to Lansing. Today's Legislature consists of 148 members, 110 State Representatives and 38 Senators, sent to Lansing by the voters of their separate districts. These men and women share an important trust and responsibility as expressed by one of the fundamental provisions of the Michigan Constitution of 1963:

The public health and general welfare of the people of the state are hereby declared to be matters of primary public concern. The Legislature shall pass suitable laws for the protection and promotion of the public health.

The direct link between the people and their legislators is reflected in the declaration at the head of every law, which reads:

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

The Michigan Legislature convenes in annual session at noon on the second Wednesday in January of each year. Each session continues until the members agree to adjourn sine die (without day), subject to interim recesses. Special sessions of the Legislature may be called by the Governor but are limited to the consideration of subjects the Governor places before the Legislature.

The Legislature is apportioned every ten years after the official total population count of each federal census so that each representative and senatorial district has as nearly equal population as possible. Based on the 2000 census, each of the 110 State Representative districts has approximately 90,000 residents and each Senate district 262,000 residents.

Except for certain criminal convictions, any person 21 years of age who is a United States citizen and a registered voter in the district to be represented can be elected to either house of the Legislature. However, a legislator can hold no other public office except notary public. In addition, an amendment to the Constitution adopted by the voters limits State Representatives to three terms (six years) in the House of Representatives and State Senators to two terms (eight years) in the Michigan Senate.

The present Capitol was formally opened on January 1, 1879. This magnificent structure, which was rededicated on November 19, 1992, has been restored to the splendor of its original condition. The Legislature consists of two chambers. The Senate Chamber is located in the south wing of the second floor and the House Chamber is in the north wing of the second floor. The floors of the chambers are not open to the public during legislative sessions, but visitors are welcome to view the sessions from the balconies overlooking the chambers which are located on the third floor.

Both chambers are equipped with a public address system and an electronic voting system to record votes.

The presiding officer of the House is called the Speaker (elected from, and a member of, the House of Representatives). The Speaker Pro Tempore and Assistant Speaker Pro Tempore, who are also elected from and by House members, preside when the Speaker is absent or wishes to participate in debate. The Constitution provides that the Lieutenant Governor shall be the President of the Senate, but shall not have a vote unless the votes are equally divided. The Senate elects a President Pro Tempore, an Assistant President Pro Tempore, an Associate President Pro Tempore, and an Assistant Associate President Pro Tempore from its membership.

The House sessions are normally held on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. and Thursdays at 12:00 noon. Senate sessions normally begin at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. However, either house may designate a different hour for convening.

The proceedings of each day's work are published in the Journals of both chambers. In addition, the records of committee action on all bills and resolutions are available for public inspection.

To make certain every member has the opportunity to become acquainted with legislation, bills in the regular sessions must be printed or reproduced and in the possession of each house for at least five days before they can be passed. Every bill must be read three times before it can be passed. The final vote on each bill is recorded in the Journals.

All laws must be published in their original words and be made available to the public within 60 days of the adjournment of each regular session.

During a two-year session, the Legislature will introduce approximately 3,500 bills—700-800 of these will become law. Proper consideration of the bills requires organization, time, and hard work. Legislators and legislative committees spend many hours of work on each bill before the bill is sent to the floor of either house for consideration. The floor debate on a bill, seen by a visitor, is only one of the stages of the legislative process.

The people can force the enactment of laws, or reject some laws passed by the Legislature, through the process of petition—submitted to the electorate at the next general election or special election as set forth by the Legislature:

- 1) The INITIATIVE petition, requiring 304,101* signatures of registered voters, is used to propose laws and to enact or reject laws.
- 2) The REFERENDUM petition, requiring 190,063* signatures of registered voters, is used to approve or reject laws enacted by the Legislature.
- 3) The CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT, requiring 380,125.6* signatures of registered voters, is used to amend the Michigan Constitution.

*In each case, a percentage of the total vote cast for all candidates for Governor at the last preceding general election at which a Governor was elected. 1) 8%; 2) 5%; 3) 10%.

LISTING BY HOUSE DISTRICTS

(new members in boldface)

Dist.	Representative	Party	Term	Dist.	Representative	Party	Term
1	Timothy Bledsoe	D	1	56	Kate Ebli	D	2
2	LaMar Lemmons, Jr.	D	3	57	Dudley Spade	D	3
3	Bettie Cook Scott	D	2	58	Kenneth Kurtz	R	1
4	Coleman A. Young II	D	2	59	Matt Lori	R	1
5	Bert Johnson	D	2	60	Robert B. Jones	D	2
6	Fred Durhal, Jr.	D	1	61	Larry DeShazor	R	1
7	Jimmy Womack	D	1	62	Kate Segal	D	1
8	George Cushingberry, Jr.	D	6*	63	James Bolger	R	1
9	Shanelle Jackson	D	2	64	Martin J. Griffin	D	2
10	Gabe Leland	D	3	65	Mike Simpson	D	2
11	David Nathan	D	1	66	Bill Rogers	R	1
12	Rashida Tlaib	D	1	67	Barb Byrum	D	2
13	Andrew Kandrevas	D	1	68	Joan Bauer	D	2
14	Ed Clemente	D	3	69	Mark S. Meadows	D	2
15	Gino H. Polidori	D	3	70	Mike Huckleberry	D	1
16	Bob Constan	D	2	71	Rick Jones	R	3
17	Andy Dillon	D	3	72	Justin Amash	R	1
18	Richard LeBlanc	D	2	73	Tom Pearce	R	2
19	John Walsh	R	1	74	Dave Agema	R	2
20	Marc R. Corriveau	D	2	75	Rev. Robert Dean	D	2
21	Dian Slavens	D	1	76	Roy Schmidt	D	1
22	Douglas Geiss	D	1	77	Kevin Green	R	3
23	Deb Kennedy	D	1	78	Sharon Tyler	R	1
24	Sarah Roberts	D	1	79	John M. Proos	R	3
25	Jon Switalski	D	1	80	Tonya Schuitmaker	R	3
26	Marie Donigan	D	3	81	Phil Pavlov	R	3
27	Ellen Cogen Lipton	D	1	82	Kevin Daly	R	1
28	Lesia Liss	D	1	83	John Espinoza	D	3
29	Tim Melton	D	2	84	Terry Brown	D	2
30	Tory Rocca	R	3	85	Richard Ball	R	3
31	Fred Miller	D	3	86	Dave Hildenbrand	R	3
32	Jennifer Haase	D	1	87	Brian N. Calley	R	2
33	Kim Meltzer	R	2	88	Robert Genetski	R	1
34	Woodrow Stanley	D	1	89	Arlan B. Meekhof	R	2
35	Vincent Gregory	D	1	90	Joseph Haveman	R	1
36	Pete Lund	R	1	91	Mary Valentine	D	2
37	Vicki Barnett	D	1	92	Doug Bennett	D	3
38	Hugh Crawford	R	1	93	Paul E. Opsommer	R	2
39	Lisa Brown	D	1	94	Kenneth B. Horn	R	2
40	Chuck Moss	R	2	95	Andy Coulouris	D	2
41	Marty Knollenberg	R	2	96	Jeff Mayes	D	3
42	Harold Haugh	D	1	97	Tim Moore	R	3
43	Gail Haines	R	1	98	Jim Stamas	R	1
44	Eileen Kowall	R	1	99	Bill Caul	R	3
45	Tom McMillin	R	1	100	Goeff Hansen	R	3
46	James Marleau	R	3	101	Dan Scripps	D	1
47	Cindy Denby	R	1	102	Darwin L. Booher	R	3
48	Richard E. Hammel	D	2	103	Joel A. Sheltrown	D	3
49	Lee Gonzales	D	3	104	Wayne Schmidt	R	1
50	Jim Slezak	D	1	105	Kevin A. Elsenheimer	R	3
51	Paul Scott	R	1	106	Andy Neumann	D	3
52	Pam Byrnes	D	3	107	Gary McDowell	D	3
53	Rebekah Warren	D	2	108	Judy Nerat	D	1
54	Alma Wheeler Smith	D	3	109	Steven Lindberg	D	2
55	Kathy Angerer	D	3	110	Michael A. Lahti	D	2

*Rep. Cushingberry is in his 3rd term under term limits

HOUSE OFFICERS

Majority Leaders

Title	Name	Office Phone
Speaker of the House	Andy Dillon	373-0857
Speaker Pro Tempore.....	Pam Byrnes	373-0828
Associate Speaker Pro Tempore.....	[Information not available at time of printing]	
Majority Floor Leader	Kathy Angerer	373-1792
Assistant Majority Floor Leader	[Information not available at time of printing]	
Assistant Associate Majority Floor Leaders	[Information not available at time of printing]	
Majority Caucus Chair.....	[Information not available at time of printing]	
Majority Caucus Vice Chair	[Information not available at time of printing]	
Majority Whip	[Information not available at time of printing]	
Assistant Majority Whips	[Information not available at time of printing]	

Republican Leaders

Title	Name	Office Phone
House Republican Leader	Kevin A. Elsenheimer	373-0829
Assistant Republican Leader.....	Arlan Meekhof.....	373-0838
Republican Floor Leader.....	Dave Hildenbrand	373-0846
Assistant Republican Floor Leaders.....	Tonya Schuitmaker.....	373-0839
	Bill Rogers	373-8957
Republican Caucus Chair	Eileen Kowall.....	373-2616
Republican Caucus Vice-Chair	Larry DeShazor.....	373-8872
Republican Caucus Whip	Kevin Green.....	373-2277
Assistant Republican Whips.....	[Information not available at time of printing]	
 Clerk of the House	 Richard J. Brown.....	 373-0135
Assistant Clerk of the House.....	Gary Randall.....	373-1896

67 Democrats — 43 Republicans

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DIRECTORY

State Representatives (2-year term, all expire on 1-1-11)

Mail for each Representative can be addressed to

P.O. Box 30014, Lansing, MI 48909-7514

www.gophouse.com (Republicans) www.housedems.com (Democrats)



Dave Agema
(R) District 74.

Website: www.gophouse.com/agema.htm

Office: daveagema@house.mi.gov (517) 373-8900. Toll-free: (800) 968-2320.

Fax: (517) 373-8697. Room N-1093, Anderson Building.



Justin Amash
(R) District 72.

Website: www.gophouse.com/amash.htm

Office: justinamash@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0840. Toll-free: (888) DIST-072.

Fax: (517) 373-7590. Room N-1091, Anderson Building.



Kathy Angerer
(D) District 55.
Majority Floor Leader.

Website: angerer.housedems.com

Office: kathyangerer@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1792. Toll-free: (888) 345-2849.

Room S-989, Anderson Building.



Richard Ball
(R) District 85.

Website: www.gophouse.com/ball.htm

Office: richardball@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0841. Toll-free: (877) 558-5426.

Room S-1189, Anderson Building.



Vicki Barnett
(D) District 37.

Website: barnett.housedems.com

Office: vickibarnett@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1793. Toll-free: (888) MICH-037.

Fax: (517) 373-8501. Room S-886, Anderson Building.



Joan Bauer

(D) District 68.

Website: bauer.housedems.com

Office: joanbauer@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0826. Fax: (517) 373-5698.
Room S-1087, Anderson Building.



Doug Bennett

(D) District 92.

Website: bennett.housedems.com

Office: dougbenett@house.mi.gov (517) 373-2646. Toll-free: (877) 411-DOUG (3684).
Fax: (517) 373-9646. Room N-1196, Anderson Building.



Timothy Bledsoe

(D) District 1.

Website: bledsoe.housedems.com

Office: timbledsoe@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0154. Toll-free: (888) 254-5291.
Fax: (517) 373-6094. Room S-585, Anderson Building.



James "Jase" Bolger

(R) District 63.

Website: www.gophouse.com/bolger.htm

Office: jamesbolger@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1787. Toll-free: (877) BOLGER-1.
Fax: (517) 373-9119. Room N-997, Anderson Building.



Darwin L. Booher

(R) District 102.

Website: www.gophouse.com/booher.htm

Office: darwinbooher@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1747. Toll-free: (877) MICH-102.
Room S-1386, Anderson Building.



Lisa Brown

(D) District 39.

Website: lbrown.housedems.com

Office: lisabrown@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1799. Fax: (517) 373-8361.
Room S-888, Anderson Building.



Terry Brown
(D) District 84.

Website: brown.housedems.com

Office: terrybrown@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0476. Toll-free: (888) 254-5284.
Fax: (517) 373-9852. Room S-1188, Anderson Building.



Pam Byrnes
(D) District 52.
Speaker Pro Tempore.

Website: byrnes.housedems.com

Office: pambyrnes@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0828. Toll-free: (800) 645-1581.
Fax: (517) 373-5783. Room 251, Capitol Building.



Barb Byrum
(D) District 67.

Website: byrum.housedems.com

Office: barbbyrum@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0587. Fax: (517) 373-9430.
Room S-1086, Anderson Building.



Brian N. Calley
(R) District 87.

Website: www.gophouse.com/calley.htm

Office: briancalley@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0842. Fax: (517) 373-6979.
Room N-1191, Anderson Building.



Bill Caul
(R) District 99.

Website: www.gophouse.com/caul.htm

Office: billcaul@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1789.
Room S-1288, Anderson Building.



Ed Clemente
(D) District 14.

Website: clemente.housedems.com

Office: edclemente@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0140. Fax: (517) 373-5924.
Room S-693, Anderson Building.



Bob Constan
(D) District 16.

Website: constan.housedems.com

Office: bobconstan@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0849. Toll-free: (888) 345-8017.
Fax: (517) 373-5967. Room N-695, Anderson Building.



Marc R. Corriveau
(D) District 20.

Website: corriveau.housedems.com

Office: marccorriveau@house.mi.gov (517) 373-3816. Toll-free: (877) 20TH-REP.
Fax: (517) 373-5952. Room N-699, Anderson Building.



Andy Coulouris
(D) District 95.

Website: coulouris.housedems.com

Office: andycoulouris@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0152. Toll-free: (888) 617-ANDY.
Fax: (517) 373-8738. Room N-1199, Anderson Building.



Hugh D. Crawford
(R) District 38.

Website: www.gophouse.com/crawford.htm

Office: hughcrawford@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0827. Fax: (517) 373-5873.
Room S-887, Anderson Building.



George Cushingberry, Jr.
(D) District 8.
Michigan Legislative Black Caucus (Historian).

Website: cushingberry.housedems.com

Office: georgecushingberry@house.mi.gov (517) 373-2276. Toll-free: (888) 347-8008.
Fax: (517) 373-7186. Room S-687, Anderson Building.



Kevin Daley
(R) District 82.

Website: www.gophouse.com/daley.htm

Office: kevindaley@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1800. Fax: (517) 373-9981.
Room S-1186, Anderson Building.



Rev. Robert Dean

(D) District 75.
Secretary, Michigan Legislative Black Caucus.

Website: dean.housedems.com

Office: robertdean@house.mi.gov (517) 373-2668. Toll-free: (888) 750-3326 (DEAN).
Fax: (517) 373-5696. Room N-1094, Anderson Building.



Cindy Denby

(R) District 47.

Website: www.gophouse.com/denby.htm

Office: cindydenby@house.mi.gov (517) 373-8835. Toll-free: (866) 828-4863.
Fax: (517) 373-5822. Room N-896, Anderson Building.



Larry DeShazor

(R) District 61.
Minority Caucus Vice-Chair.

Website: www.gophouse.com/deshazor.htm

Office: larrydeshazor@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1774. Toll-free: (877) DIST-061.
Fax: (517) 373-8872. Room N-995, Anderson Building.



Andy Dillon

(D) District 17.
Speaker of the House. (C) Legislative Council.

Website: dillon.housedems.com

Office: andydillon@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0857. Toll-free: (888) REP-DILLON.
Fax: (517) 373-5976. Room 164, Capitol Building.



Marie Donigan

(D) District 26.

Website: donigan.housedems.com

Office: mariedonigan@house.mi.gov (517) 373-3818. Toll-free: (866) 585-2471.
Fax: (517) 373-5888. Room N-790, Anderson Building.



Fred Durhal, Jr.

(D) District 6.
First Vice Chairperson, Michigan Legislative Black Caucus.

Website: durhal.housedems.com

Office: freddurhal@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0844. Toll-free: (877) 877-9007.
Fax: (517) 373-5711. Room S-685, Anderson Building.



Kate Ebli

(D) District 56.

Website: ebli.housedems.com

Office: kateebli@house.mi.gov (517) 373-2617. Toll-free: (888) EBLI-056.

Fax: (517) 373-5782. Room N-990, Anderson Building.



Kevin A. Elsenheimer

(R) District 105.

Minority Leader.

Website: www.gophouse.com/elsenheimer.htm

Office: kevinelsenheimer@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0829. Toll-free: (877) 536-4105.

Room S-721, Anderson Building.



John Espinoza

(D) District 83.

Website: espinoza.housedems.com

Office: johnespinoza@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0835. Toll-free: (888) 830-0835.

Fax: (517) 373-9876. Room S-1187, Anderson Building.



Douglas A. Geiss

(D) District 22.

Website: geiss.housedems.com

Office: douglasgeiss@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0852. Fax: (517) 373-5934.

Room S-786, Anderson Building.



Bob Genetski

(R) District 88.

Website: www.gophouse.com/genetski.htm

Office: bobgenetski@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0836. Fax: (517) 373-8728.

Room N-1192, Anderson Building.



Lee Gonzales

(D) District 49.

Website: gonzales.housedems.com

Office: leegonzales@house.mi.gov (517) 373-7515. Toll-free: (800) FLINT-49.

Fax: (517) 373-5817. Room N-898, Anderson Building.



Kevin Green

(R) District 77.
Minority Whip.

Website: www.gophouse.com/green.htm

Office: kevingreen@house.mi.gov (517) 373-2277. Toll-free: (866) KEVIN-77.
Room N-1096, Anderson Building.



Vincent Gregory

(D) District 35.

Website: gregory.housedems.com

Office: vincentgregory@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1788. Fax: (517) 373-5880.
Room N-799, Anderson Building.



Martin J. Griffin

(D) District 64.

Assistant Associate Floor Leader. (C) Michigan Capitol Committee.

Office: martingriffin@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1795. Fax: (517) 373-5760.
Room N-998, Anderson Building.



Jennifer Haase

(D) District 32.

Website: haase.housedems.com

Office: jenniferhaase@house.mi.gov (517) 373-8931. Toll-free: (866) DIST-032.
Fax: (517) 373-8637. Room N-796, Anderson Building.



Gail Haines

(R) District 43.

Website: www.gophouse.com/haines.htm

Office: gailhaines@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0615. Fax: (517) 373-7512.
Room N-892, Anderson Building.



Richard E. Hammel

(D) District 48.

Website: hammel.housedems.com

Office: richardhammel@house.mi.gov (517) 373-7557. Toll-free: (888) 347-8048.
Fax: (517) 373-5953. Room N-897, Anderson Building.



Goeff Hansen

(R) District 100.

Website: www.gophouse.com/hansen.htm

Office: goeffhansen@house.mi.gov (517) 373-7317. Toll-free: (877) 999-0995.
Room S-1289, Anderson Building.



Harold L. Haugh

(D) District 42.

Website: haugh.housedems.com

Office: haroldhaugh@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0854. Toll-free: (866) 994-HAUGH.
Fax: (517) 373-5911. Room N-891, Anderson Building.



Joseph Haveman

(R) District 90.

Website: www.gophouse.com/haveman.htm

Office: josephhaveman@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0830. Fax: (517) 373-7806.
Room N-1194, Anderson Building.



Dave Hildenbrand

(R) District 86.

Minority Floor Leader. House Fiscal Agency Governing Board.

Website: www.gophouse.com/hildenbrand.htm

Office: rephildenbrand@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0846. Toll-free: (877) DAVE-086.
Room N-1190, Anderson Building.



Kenneth B. Horn

(R) District 94.

Website: www.gophouse.com/horn.htm

Office: kennethhorn@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0837. Toll-free: (866) HORN-094.
Fax: (517) 373-3589. Room N-1198, Anderson Building.



Mike Huckleberry

(D) District 70.

Website: huckleberry.housedems.com

Office: mikehuckleberry@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0834. Toll-free: (877) HUCK-70TH.
Fax: (517) 373-9622. Room S-1089, Anderson Building.



Shanelle Jackson

(D) District 9.

Executive Vice Chairperson, Michigan Legislative Black Caucus.

Website: jackson.housedems.com

Office: shanellejackson@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1705. Toll-free: (888) 4-SHANELLE.

Fax: (517) 373-5968. Room S-688, Anderson Building.



Bert Johnson

(D) District 5.

Detroit Caucus Chair.

Website: johnson.housedems.com

Office: bertjohnson@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0144. Toll-free: (888) DET-REP5.

Fax: (517) 373-8929. Room S-589, Anderson Building.



Rick Jones

(R) District 71.

Website: www.gophouse.com/jones.htm

Office: rickjones@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0853. Toll-free: (888) RICK-071.

Room N-1090, Anderson Building.



Robert B. Jones

(D) District 60.

Chairperson, Michigan Legislative Black Caucus.

Website: jones.housedems.com

Office: robertjones@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1785. Toll-free: (888) 833-6636.

Fax: (517) 373-5762. Room N-994, Anderson Building.



Andrew J. Kandrevas

(D) District 13.

Website: kandrevas.housedems.com

Office: andrewkandrevas@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0845. Toll-free: (866) REP-1313.

Fax: (517) 373-5926.

Room N-692, Anderson Building.



Deb Kennedy

(D) District 23.

Website: kennedy.housedems.com

Office: debkennedy@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0855. Toll-free: (866) 725-2929.

Fax: (517) 373-5922. Room S-787, Anderson Building.



Marty Knollenberg

(R) District 41.

Website: www.gophouse.com/knollenberg.htm

Office: martyknollenberg@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1783. Toll-free: (877) 248-0001.

Fax: (517) 373-8660. Room N-890, Anderson Building.



Eileen Kowall

(R) District 44.

Minority Caucus Chair.

Website: www.gophouse.com/kowall.htm

Office: eileenkowall@house.mi.gov (517) 373-2616. Toll-free: (866) 334-0010.

Fax: (517) 373-5843. Room N-893, Anderson Building.



Kenneth Kurtz

(R) District 58.

Website: www.gophouse.com/kurtz.htm

Office: kennethkurtz@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1794. Toll-free: (866) 362-8812.

Fax: (517) 373-5768. Room N-992, Anderson Building.



Michael A. Lahti

(D) District 110.

Website: lahti.housedems.com

Office: mikelahti@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0850. Toll-free: (888) 663-4031.

Fax: (517) 373-9303. Room S-1489, Anderson Building.



Richard LeBlanc

(D) District 18.

Website: leblanc.housedems.com

Office: richardleblanc@house.mi.gov (517) 373-2576. Toll-free: (888) 737-5325.

Fax: (517) 373-5962. Room N-697, Anderson Building.



Gabe Leland

(D) District 10.

Website: leland.housedems.com

Office: gabeleland@house.mi.gov (517) 373-6990. Toll-free: (866) 525-GABE.

Fax: (517) 373-5985. Room S-689, Anderson Building.



LaMar Lemmons, Jr.

(D) District 2.
Michigan Legislative Black Caucus.

Website: lemmonsjr.housedems.com

Office: lamarlemmonsjr@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0106. Toll-free: (877) LaMar-02.
Fax: (517) 373-7271. Room S-586, Anderson Building.



Steven Lindberg

(D) District 109.

Website: lindberg.housedems.com

Office: stevenlindberg@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0498.
Toll-free: (888) 429-1377 (Upper Peninsula only) Fax: (517) 373-9366.
Room S-1488, Anderson Building.



Ellen Cogen Lipton

(D) District 27.

Website: lipton.housedems.com

Office: ellenlipton@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0478. Toll-free: (888) DIST-027.
Fax: (517) 373-5884. Room N-791, Anderson Building.



Lesia Liss

(D) District 28.

Website: liss.housedems.com

Office: lesialiss@house.mi.gov (517) 373-2275. Toll-free: (888) LISS-028.
Fax: (517) 373-5910. Room N-792, Anderson Building.



Matt Lori

(R) District 59.

Website: www.gophouse.com/lori.htm

Office: mattlori@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0832. Toll-free: (877) 262-5959.
Fax: (517) 373-5763. Room N-993, Anderson Building.



Pete Lund

(R) District 36.

Website: www.gophouse.com/lund.htm

Office: petelund@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0843. Toll-free: (888) MICH-REP.
Fax: (517) 373-5892. Room S-885, Anderson Building.



James Marleau
(R) District 46.

Website: www.gophouse.com/marleau.htm

Office: jimmarleau@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1798. Toll-free: (248) 724-2442.
Room N-895, Anderson Building.



Jeff Mayes
(D) District 96.

Website: mayes.housedems.com

Office: jeffmayes@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0158. Toll-free: (866) 737-0096.
Fax: (517) 373-8881. Room S-1285, Anderson Building.



Gary McDowell
(D) District 107.

Website: mcdowell.housedems.com

Office: garymcdowell@house.mi.gov (517) 373-2629. Toll-free: (888) REP-GARY.
Fax: (517) 373-8429. Room S-1486, Anderson Building.



Tom McMillin
(R) District 45.

Website: www.gophouse.com/mcmillin.htm

Office: tomcmillin@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1773. Fax: (517) 373-5838.
Room N-894, Anderson Building.



Mark S. Meadows
(D) District 69.

Joint Committee on Administrative Rules. Law Revision Commission.

Website: meadows.housedems.com

Office: markmeadows@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1786. Fax: (517) 373-5717.
Room S-1088, Anderson Building.



Arlan B. Meekhof
(R) District 89.
Assistant Minority Leader.

Website: www.gophouse.com/meekhof.htm

Office: arlanbmeekhof@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0838. Fax: (517) 373-9830.
Room N-1193, Anderson Building.



Tim Melton
(D) District 29.

Website: melton.housedems.com

Office: timmelton@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0475. Toll-free: (888) MELTON-4.
Fax: (517) 373-5061. Room N-793, Anderson Building.



Kim Meltzer
(R) District 33.

Website: www.gophouse.com/meltzer.htm

Office: kimmeltzer@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0820. Toll-free: (800) 209-3330.
Fax: (517) 373-5974. Room N-797, Anderson Building.



Fred Miller
(D) District 31.

Website: miller.housedems.com

Office: fredmiller@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0159. Toll-free: (877) DIST-031.
Fax: (517) 373-5893. Room N-795, Anderson Building.



Tim Moore
(R) District 97.

Website: www.gophouse.com/moore.htm

Office: timmoore@house.mi.gov (517) 373-8962. Toll-free: (866) MOORE-97.
Room S-1286, Anderson Building.



Chuck Moss
(R) District 40.

Website: www.gophouse.com/moss.htm

Office: chuckmoss@house.mi.gov (517) 373-8670. Toll-free: (877) 707-MOSS (6677).
Fax: (517) 373-5868. Room S-889, Anderson Building.



David Nathan
(D) District 11.

Website: nathan.housedems.com

Office: davidnathan@house.mi.gov (517) 373-3815. Fax: (517) 373-5986.
Room N-690, Anderson Building.



Judy Nerat

(D) District 108.

Website: nerat.housedems.com

Office: judynerat@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0156. Fax: (517) 373-9370.
Room S-1487, Anderson Building.



Andy Neumann

(D) District 106.

Website: neumann.housedems.com

Office: andyneumann@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0833. Fax: (517) 373-8446.
Room S-1485, Anderson Building.



Paul E. Opsommer

(R) District 93.

Website: www.gophouse.com/opsommer.htm

Office: paulopsommer@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1778. Toll-free: (877) 859-8086.
Fax: (517) 373-5780. Room N-1197, Anderson Building.



Phil Pavlov

(R) District 81.

Website: www.gophouse.com/pavlov.htm

Office: phillipavlov@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1790. Toll-free: (866) 4-PAVLOV.
Room S-1185, Anderson Building.



Tom Pearce

(R) District 73.

Website: www.gophouse.com/pearce.htm

Office: tompearce@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0218. Toll-free: (888) 414-3684.
Room N-1092, Anderson Building.



Gino H. Polidori

(D) District 15.

Website: polidori.housedems.com

Office: ginopolidori@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0847. Toll-free: (866) 789-GINO.
Fax: (517) 373-7538. Room N-694, Anderson Building.



John M. Proos
(R) District 79.

Website: www.gophouse.com/proos.htm

Office: johnproos@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1403. Toll-free: (888) 656-0079.
Room N-1098, Anderson Building.



Sarah Roberts
(D) District 24.

Website: roberts.housedems.com

Office: sarahroberts@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0113. Toll-free: (888) DIST-024.
Fax: (517) 373-5912. Room S-788, Anderson Building.



Tory Rocca
(R) District 30.
Joint Committee on Administrative Rules.

Website: www.gophouse.com/rocca.htm

Office: toryrocca@house.mi.gov (517) 373-7768. Fax: (517) 373-5903.
Room N-794, Anderson Building.



Bill Rogers
(R) District 66.
Assistant Minority Floor Leader.

Website: www.gophouse.com/rogers.htm

Office: billrogers@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1784. Toll-free: (800) 295-0066.
Fax: (517) 373-8957. Room S-1085, Anderson Building.



Roy Schmidt
(D) District 76.

Website: royschmidt.housedems.com

Office: royschmidt@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0822. Fax: (517) 373-5276.
Room N-1095, Anderson Building.



Wayne A. Schmidt
(R) District 104.

Website: www.gophouse.com/schmidt.htm

Office: wayneschmidt@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1766. Toll-free: (800) REP-1046.
Fax: (517) 373-9420. Room S-1388, Anderson Building.



Tonya Schuitmaker

(R) District 80.
Assistant Minority Floor Leader.

Website: www.gophouse.com/schuitmaker.htm

Office: tonyaschuitmaker@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0839. Toll-free: (800) 577-6212.
Room N-1099, Anderson Building.



Bettie Cook Scott

(D) District 3.

Website: scott.housedems.com

Office: bettiecookscott@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1776. Toll-free: (877) 272-6885.
Fax: (517) 373-8502. Room S-587, Anderson Building.



Paul Scott

(R) District 51.

Website: www.gophouse.com/scott.htm

Office: paulscott@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1780. Fax: (517) 373-5810.
Room S-985, Anderson Building.



Dan Scripps

(D) District 101.

Website: scripps.housedems.com

Office: danscripps@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0825. Fax: (517) 373-9461.
Room S-1385, Anderson Building.



Kate Segal

(D) District 62.

Website: segal.housedems.com

Office: katesegal@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0555. Toll-free: (888) DIST-062.
Fax: (517) 373-5761. Room N-996, Anderson Building.



Joel A. Sheltroun

(D) District 103.

Website: sheltroun.housedems.com

Office: dist103@house.mi.gov (517) 373-3817. Toll-free: (888) 347-8103.
Fax: (517) 373-5495. Room S-1387, Anderson Building.



Mike Simpson
(D) District 65.

Website: simpson.housedems.com

Office: mikesimpson@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1775. Toll-free: (888) DIST-065.
Fax: (517) 373-5242. Room N-999, Anderson Building.



Dian Slavens
(D) District 21.

Website: slavens.housedems.com

Office: dianslavens@house.mi.gov (517) 373-2575. Toll-free: (888) DIST-021.
Fax: (517) 373-5939. Room S-785, Anderson Building.



Jim Slezak
(D) District 50.

Website: slezak.housedems.com

Office: jimslezak@house.mi.gov (517) 373-3906. Toll-free: (800) 555-8560.
Fax: (517) 373-5812. Room N-899, Anderson Building.



Alma Wheeler Smith
(D) District 54.

Legislative Retirement Board of Trustees. Michigan Legislative Black Caucus.

Website: almasmith.housedems.com

Office: almasmith@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1771. Fax: (517) 373-5797.
Room S-988, Anderson Building.



Dudley Spade
(D) District 57.

Co-Chair, Legislative Disability Caucus. (C) Joint Committee on Administrative Rules.

Website: spade.housedems.com

Office: dspade@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1706. Fax: (517) 373-5777.
Room N-991, Anderson Building.



Jim Stamas
(R) District 98.

Website: www.gophouse.com/stamas.htm

Office: jimstamas@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1791. Toll-free: (800) 626-8887.
Fax: (517) 373-9480. Room S-1287, Anderson Building.



Woodrow Stanley

(D) District 34.
Second Vice Chairperson, Michigan Legislative Black Caucus.

Website: stanley.housedems.com

Office: woodrowstanley@house.mi.gov (517) 373-8808. Toll-free: (888) WOOD-034.
Fax: (517) 373-5997. Room N-798, Anderson Building.



Jon M. Switalski

(D) District 25.

Website: switalski.housedems.com

Office: jonswitalski@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1772. Toll-free: (877) JONS-025.
Fax: (517) 373-5906. Room S-789, Anderson Building.



Rashida H. Tlaib

(D) District 12.

Website: tlaib.housedems.com

Office: rashidatlaib@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0823. Fax: (517) 373-5993.
Room N-691, Anderson Building.



Sharon Tyler

(R) District 78.

Website: www.gophouse.com/tyler.htm

Office: sharontyler@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1796. Toll-free: (888) 373-0078.
Fax: (517) 373-5918.
Room N-1097, Anderson Building.



Mary Valentine

(D) District 91.

Website: valentine.housedems.com

Office: maryvalentine@house.mi.gov (517) 373-3436. Toll-free: (877) 633-0331.
Fax: (517) 373-9698. Room N-1195, Anderson Building.



John Walsh

(R) District 19.

Website: www.gophouse.com/walsh.htm

Office: johnwalsh@house.mi.gov (517) 373-3920. Fax: (517) 373-5957.
Room N-698, Anderson Building.



Rebekah Warren

(D) District 53.

Website: warren.housedems.com

Office: rebekahwarren@house.mi.gov (517) 373-2577. Fax: (517) 373-5808.
Room S-987, Anderson Building.



Jimmy Womack

(D) District 7.

Treasurer, Michigan Legislative Black Caucus.

Website: womack.housedems.com

Office: jimmywomack@house.mi.gov (517) 373-0589. Fax: (517) 373-6404.
Room S-686, Anderson Building.



Coleman A. Young, II

(D) District 4.

Parliamentarian, Michigan Legislative Black Caucus.

Website: young.housedems.com

Office: colemanayoungii@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1008. Toll-free: (877) YOUNG-04.
Fax: (517) 373-5995. Room S-588, Anderson Building.

LISTING BY SENATE DISTRICTS

Dist.	Senator	Party	Term	Dist.	Senator	Party	Term
1	Hansen Clarke	D	2	20	Tom George	R	2
2	Martha G. Scott	D	3**	21	Ron Jelinek	R	2
3	Irma Clark-Coleman	D	2	22	Valde Garcia	R	3**
4	Buzz Thomas	D	2	23	Gretchen Whitmer	D	2**
5	Tupac A. Hunter	D	1	24	Patricia Birkholz	R	2
6	Glenn S. Anderson	D	1	25	Jud Gilbert	R	2
7	Bruce Patterson	R	2	26	Deborah Cherry	D	2
8	Raymond E. Basham	D	2	27	John J. Gleason	D	1
9	Dennis Olshove	D	2	28	Mark C. Jansen	R	1
10	Michael Switalski	D	2	29	Bill Hardiman	R	2
11	Alan Sanborn	R	3**	30	Wayne Kuipers	R	2
12	Michael D. Bishop	R	2	31	Jim Barcia	D	5*
13	John Pappageorge	R	1	32	Roger Kahn	R	1
14	Gilda Z. Jacobs	D	2	33	Alan L. Cropsey	R	3*
15	Nancy Cassis	R	2	34	Gerald Van Woerkom	R	2
16	Cameron S. Brown	R	2	35	Michelle A. McManus	R	2
17	Randy Richardville	R	1	36	Tony Stamas	R	2
18	Liz Brater	D	2	37	Jason Allen	R	2
19	Vacancy			38	Michael Prusi	D	2

** Additional terms not subject to term limits due to time served in office prior to term limit adoption*

*** Elected to the Senate in the first term by special election*

SENATE OFFICERS

Title	Name	Office Phone
President	Lt. Governor John D. Cherry, Jr.	373-6800
President Pro Tempore	Randy Richardville	373-3543
Assistant President Pro Tempore.....	Alan Sanborn.....	373-7670
Associate President Pro Tempore.....	Jim Barcia	373-1777

Majority Leaders

Majority Leader	Michael D. Bishop.....	373-2417
Assistant Majority Leader	Michelle A. McManus	373-1725
Majority Floor Leader	Alan L. Cropsey.....	373-3760
Assistant Majority Floor Leader	Cameron S. Brown	373-5932
Majority Caucus Chair.....	Nancy Cassis.....	373-1758
Assistant Majority Caucus Chair.....	Mark C. Jansen.....	373-0797
Majority Caucus Whip	Jason Allen	373-2413
Assistant Majority Caucus Whip.....	Roger Kahn	373-1760

Minority Leaders

Democratic Leader	Michael Prusi	373-7840
Assistant Democratic Leader	Tupac A. Hunter	373-0994
Democratic Floor Leader	Buzz Thomas.....	373-7918
Assistant Democratic Floor Leader.....	Glenn S. Anderson.....	373-1707
Democratic Caucus Chair.....	Gilda Z. Jacobs	373-7888
Assistant Democratic Caucus Chair	John J. Gleason.....	373-0142
Democratic Caucus Whip.....	Raymond E. Basham.....	373-7800
Assistant Democratic Caucus Whip.....	Dennis Olshove	373-8360
Secretary of the Senate.....	Carol Morey Viventi, J.D.	373-2400

21 Republicans — 16 Democrats — 1 Vacancy

MICHIGAN SENATE DIRECTORY

State Senators (4-year term, all expire on 1-1-11)
(C)-Chair, (VC)-Vice Chair, (M-VC)-Minority Vice Chair

Mail for each Senator can be addressed to
P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, Michigan 48909-7536
www.senate.mi.gov



Jason Allen

(R) District 37.
Majority Caucus Whip. Legislative Council.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/allen

Office: senjallen@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-2413. Toll-free: (866) 525-5637.
Fax: (517) 373-5144. Room 820, Farnum Building.



Glenn S. Anderson

(D) District 6.
Assistant Democratic Floor Leader.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/anderson

Office: senatoranderson@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-1707. Toll-free: (866) 262-7306.
Fax: (517) 373-3935. Room 610, Farnum Building.



Jim Barcia

(D) District 31.
Associate President Pro Tempore. Co-Chair, MI Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus.
Joint Committee on Administrative Rules, Member.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/barcia

Office: senjbarcia@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-1777. Toll-free: (866) 305-2131.
Fax: (517) 373-5871. Room 1010, Farnum Building.



Raymond E. Basham

(D) District 8.
Democratic Caucus Whip.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/basham

Office: senrbasham@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-7800. Fax: (517) 373-9310.
Room 715, Farnum Building.



Patricia Birkholz

(R) District 24.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/birkholz

Office: senpbirkholz@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-3447. Toll-free: (888) 28-PATTY.
Fax: (517) 373-5849. Room 805, Farnum Building.



Michael D. Bishop

(R) District 12.

Majority Leader. (C) Legislative Council. (C) Senate Fiscal Agency Board of Governors.
Legislative Retirement Board of Trustees.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/bishop

Office: senmbishop@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-2417. Toll-free: (877) 9-BISHOP.
Fax: (517) 373-2694. Room S-106, Capitol Building.



Liz Brater

(D) District 18.

Michigan Capitol Committee.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/brater

Office: senlbrater@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-2406. Toll-free: (866) 305-0318.
Fax: (517) 373-5679. Room 510, Farnum Building.



Cameron S. Brown

(R) District 16.

Assistant Majority Floor Leader. Legislative Council (Alt.). Michigan Capitol Committee.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/brown

Office: sencbrown@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-5932. Toll-free: (866) 305-0316.
Fax: (517) 373-5944. Room 405, Farnum Building. **Adrian Office:** (517) 266-2002.



Nancy Cassis

(R) District 15.

Majority Caucus Chair.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/cassis

Office: senncassis@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-1758. Toll-free: (888) 38-NANCY.
Fax: (517) 373-0938. Room 905, Farnum Building.



Deborah Cherry

(D) District 26.

Toll-Free: (866) 305-2126 **Main Line:** (517) 373-1636 **Fax:** (517) 373-1453

E-Mail Address: sendcherry@senate.mi.gov

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/cherry

Office: Room 910, Farnum Building.



Irma Clark-Coleman

(D) District 3.

Member, Michigan Legislative Black Caucus.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/clark-coleman

Office: seniclark-coleman@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-0990. Toll-free: (866) 747-7803.
Fax: (517) 373-5338. Room 310, Farnum Building. **Dearborn Office:** 15250 Mercantile Dr.,
Dearborn 48120. (313) 271-2688. Fax: (313) 271-2632.



Hansen Clarke

(D) District 1.
Joint Committee on Administrative Rules. Legislative Retirement Board of Trustees.
Michigan Legislative Black Caucus.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/clarke

Office: senhclarke@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-7346. Toll-free: (877) 252-7537.

Fax: (517) 373-9320. Room 710, Farnum Building.



Alan L. Cropsey

(R) District 33.
Majority Floor Leader.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/cropsey

Office: senacropsey@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-3760. Toll-free: (866) 305-2133.

Fax: (517) 373-8661. Room S-8, Capitol Building.



Valde Garcia

(R) District 22.
Michigan Capitol Committee.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/garcia

Office: senvgarcia@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-2420. Toll-free: (800) 516-0026.

Fax: (517) 373-2764. Room S-132, Capitol Building.



Tom George

(R) District 20.
(C) Michigan Capitol Committee.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/george

Office: sentgeorge@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-0793. Toll-free: (866) 305-2120.

Fax: (517) 373-5607. Room 320, Farnum Building. **District:** 157 S. Kalamazoo Mall,
Ste. 170, Kalamazoo 49006. (269) 226-0124. Fax: (269) 226-0130.



Jud Gilbert

(R) District 25.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/gilbert

Office: Room 705, Farnum Building. (517) 373-7708. Toll-free: (877) 445-2378.

Fax: (517) 373-1450.

E-Mail Address: senjgilbert@senate.michigan.gov



John J. Gleason

(D) District 27.
Assistant Democratic Caucus Chair.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/gleason

Office: senjgleason@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-0142. Toll-free: (866) 268-2914.

Fax: (517) 373-3938. Room 315, Farnum Building.



Bill Hardiman

(R) District 29.
Michigan Legislative Black Caucus.

Website and E-Mail: www.senate.mi.gov/hardiman
(517) 373-1801. Toll-free: (866) 305-2129. Fax: (517) 373-5801.
Room 305, Farnum Building.



Tupac A. Hunter

(D) District 5.
Assistant Democratic Leader. Legislative Council (Alt.)

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/hunter
Office: sentahunter@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-0994. Toll-free: (866) 262-7305.
Fax: (517) 373-5981. Room 915, Farnum Building.



Gilda Z. Jacobs

(D) District 14.
Democratic Caucus Chair.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/jacobs
Office: sengjacobs@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-7888. Toll-free: (888) 937-4453.
Fax: (517) 373-2983. Room 1015, Farnum Building.



Mark C. Jansen

(R) District 28.
Assistant Majority Caucus Chair.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/jansen
Office: senmjansen@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-0797. Toll-free: (866) 305-2128.
Fax: (517) 373-5236. Room 520, Farnum Building.



Ron Jelinek

(R) District 21.
Senate Fiscal Agency Board of Governors.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/jelinek
Office: senrjelinek@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-6960. Toll-free: (866) 305-2121.
Fax: (517) 373-0897. Room S-324, Capitol Building.



Roger Kahn

(R) District 32.
Assistant Majority Caucus Whip.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/kahn
Office: senrkahn@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-1760. Toll-free: (866) 305-2132.
Fax: (517) 373-3487. Room 420, Farnum Building.



Wayne Kuipers

(R) District 30.
Joint Committee on Administrative Rules.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/kuipers
Office: senwkuipers@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-6920. Toll-free: (877) KUIPERS.
Fax: (517) 373-2751. Room 1005, Farnum Building.



Michelle A. McManus

(R) District 35.
Assistant Majority Leader. Legislative Retirement Board of Trustees.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/mcmanus
Office: senmmcmanus@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-1725. Toll-free: (866) 305-2135.
Fax: (517) 373-0741. Room S-2, Capitol Building.



Dennis Olshove

(D) District 9.
Assistant Democratic Caucus Whip.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/olshove
Office: sendolshove@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-8360. Fax: (517) 373-9230.
Room 920, Farnum Building. **District:** 27500 Hoover, Warren 48093. (586) 757-7180.



John Pappageorge

(R) District 13.
(C) Joint Committee on Administrative Rules. Senate Fiscal Agency Board of Governors.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/pappageorge
Office: senjpappageorge@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-2523. Toll-free: (877) SEN-13TH.
Fax: (517) 373-5669. Room 1020, Farnum Building.



Bruce Patterson

(R) District 7.
Commission on Uniform State Laws. Legislative Council. Michigan Law Revision Commission.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/patterson
Office: senbpatterson@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-7350. Toll-free: (866) 262-7307.
Fax: (517) 373-9228. Room 505, Farnum Building.



Michael Prusi

(D) District 38.
Democratic Leader.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/prusi
Office: senmprusi@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-7840. Toll-free: (866) 305-2038.
Fax: (517) 373-3932. Room S-105, Capitol Building. **District:** (906) 524-4551.



Randy Richardville

(R) District 17.
President Pro Tempore.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/richardville

Office: senrichardville@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-3543. Toll-free: (866) 556-7917.
Fax: (517) 373-0927. Room 205, Farnum Building.



Alan Sanborn

(R) District 11.
Assistant President Pro Tempore. Legislative Council (Alt.).

Toll-Free: (888) 353-ALAN **Main Line:** (517) 373-7670 **Fax:** (517) 373-5958

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/sanborn **E-Mail Address:** senasanborn@senate.michigan.gov
Office: Room S-310, Capitol Building.



Martha G. Scott

(D) District 2.
Michigan Legislative Black Caucus.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/scott

Office: senmscott@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-7748. Toll-free: (800) SCOTT-78.
Fax: (517) 373-1387. Room 220, Farnum Building.



Tony Stamas

(R) District 36.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/stamas

Office: ofcstamas@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-7946. Toll-free: (866) 305-2136.
Fax: (517) 373-2678. Room 720, Farnum Building.



Michael Switalski

(D) District 10.
Senate Fiscal Agency Board of Governors.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/switalski

Office: senmswitalski@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-7315. Toll-free: (866) 303-0110.
Fax: (517) 373-3126. Room 410, Farnum Building. **District:** (586) 774-2430.



Buzz Thomas

(D) District 4.
Democratic Floor Leader. Legislative Council. Michigan Legislative Black Caucus.
(C) Arts Caucus.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/thomas

Office: senbthomas@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-7918. Toll-free: (866) 348-6304.
Fax: (517) 373-5227. Room S-9, Capitol Building.



Gerald Van Woerkom

(R) District 34.

Joint Committee on Administrative Rules.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/vanwoerkom

Office: sengvanwoerkom@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-1635. Toll-free: (866) 305-2134.

Fax: (517) 373-3300. Room 605, Farnum Building.

District Office: 1065 4th Street, Suite A, Muskegon 49440. (231) 722-6590.



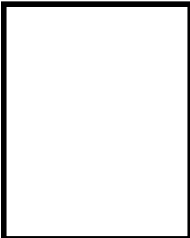
Gretchen Whitmer

(D) District 23.

Website: www.senate.mi.gov/whitmer

Office: sengwhitmer@senate.michigan.gov (517) 373-1734. Fax: (517) 373-5397.

Room 415, Farnum Building.



Vacancy

District 19.



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENTS

(All phone numbers are in Lansing area code 517, unless otherwise noted)

For basic information on a city or county matter, contact your city hall or the county clerk's office. For matters involving the state, there are places from which to request information other than your legislator. There are 18 major departments along with the Executive Office in the state Executive Branch.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 30013
LANSING 48909
Jennifer M. Granholm, Governor
Information373-3400
Lieutenant Governor's Office373-6800
Washington, D.C. Office.....202-624-5840
Northern Michigan Office906-228-2850
Southeast Michigan Office313-456-0010

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

525 WEST ALLEGAN STREET
P.O. BOX 30017
LANSING 48909
Donald Koivisto, Director
Information Toll-Free 1-800-292-3939
Executive Office373-1052
Animal Industry373-1077
Food and Dairy Division373-1060
Pesticide and Plant Pest Management373-1087
Office of Racing Commissioner335-1420

DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

G. MENNEN WILLIAMS BUILDING, 7TH FLOOR
525 WEST OTTAWA STREET
P.O. BOX 30212
LANSING 48909
Mike Cox, Attorney General
Information373-1110
Charitable Trusts373-1152
Consumer Protection373-1140
..... Toll-Free 1-877-765-8388

DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL RIGHTS

CAPITOL TOWER BUILDING, SUITE 800
110 W. MICHIGAN AVENUE
LANSING 48933
Linda Parker, Director
InformationToll-Free 1-800-482-3604

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH

CAPITOL VIEW BUILDING
201 TOWNSEND STREET
LANSING 48913
Janet D. Olszewski, Director
Information373-3740
Bureau of Health Professions373-8068
Communications, Training, and
Support Division241-2112

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH

(CONTINUED)
Crime Victims Services Commission334-9185
Family, Maternal, and Child Health335-8928
Medical Services Administration335-5567
Mental Health and Substance Abuse
Administration335-0196
Office of Drug Control Policy373-4700
Office of Services to the Aging373-8230
Public Health Administration335-8024

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

GRANDVIEW PLAZA BUILDING
206 EAST MICHIGAN AVENUE
P.O. BOX 30003
LANSING 48909
Patricia Caruso, Director
Information335-1426

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

JOHN HANNAH BUILDING
608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET
P.O. BOX 30008
LANSING 48909
Mike Flanagan, Superintendent
of Public Instruction
Information373-3324
Scholarships and Grants Toll-Free 1-888-447-2687
State Board of Education373-3900
Student Issues Toll-Free 1-888-323-4231

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, LABOR, AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

611 WEST OTTAWA STREET
G. MENNEN WILLIAMS BUILDING, 4TH FLOOR
P.O. BOX 30004
LANSING 48909
Stanley "Skip" Pruss, Director
Information373-1820

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, LABOR, AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

(CONTINUED)

Bureau of Career Education241-4000
 Bureau of Commercial Services241-9288
 Bureau of Construction Codes241-9313
 Commission for the Blind373-2062
 Toll-Free 1-800-292-4200
 Commission on Disability Concerns and
 Division on Deaf and Hard of Hearing
 (Voice or TTY) Toll-Free 1-877-499-6232
 Financial and Insurance Services373-0220
 Liquor Control Commission322-1345
 Michigan Economic Development
 Corporation373-9808
 Michigan State Housing Development
 Authority373-8370
 MIOSHA322-1814
 Public Service Commission241-6180
 Toll-Free 1-800-292-9555
 Tax Tribunal373-3003
 Wage/Hour Division335-0400
 Workers' Compensation Agency
 Toll-Free 1-888-396-5041

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

CONSTITUTION HALL

525 WEST ALLEGAN STREET

P.O. BOX 30473

LANSING 48909-7973

Steven E. Chester, Director

Information373-7917
 Air Quality Division373-7023
 Environmental Assistance Center
 Toll-Free 1-800-662-9278
 Environmental Science and Services Division ...241-0490
 Office of Geological Survey241-1515
 Land and Water Management Division373-1170
 Remediation and Redevelopment Division373-9837
 Waste and Hazardous Materials Division335-2690
 Water Bureau241-1300

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY, ARTS AND LIBRARIES

702 WEST KALAMAZOO STREET

P.O. BOX 30738

LANSING 48909

Dr. William M. Anderson, Director

Information241-2236
 Library of Michigan373-1300
 Mackinac Island State Park
 Commission231-436-4100
 Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural
 Affairs241-4011
 Michigan Film Office Toll-Free 1-800-477-3456
 Michigan Historical Center373-0510

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

235 SOUTH GRAND AVENUE

P.O. BOX 30037

LANSING 48909

Ismael Ahmed, Director

Information373-2035
 Children's Protective Services335-3704
 Adult Protective Services Toll-Free 1-800-996-6228

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

ROMNEY BUILDING, 8TH FLOOR

111 SOUTH CAPITOL AVENUE

LANSING 48933

Ken Theis, Director

Information335-4000

DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

LEWIS CASS BUILDING

320 SOUTH WALNUT STREET

P.O. BOX 30026

LANSING 48909

Lisa Webb Sharpe, Director

Information373-1004
 Civil Service Commission373-3030
 Office of Purchasing335-0230
 Office of Retirement Services322-5103

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

3411 NORTH MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BOULEVARD

LANSING 48906

Thomas G. Cutler, Director

Information481-8000

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

STEVENS T. MASON BUILDING

P.O. BOX 30028

LANSING 48909

Rebecca Humphries, Director

Information373-2329
 Fisheries Division373-1280
 Forest, Mineral and Fire Management373-1275
 Law Enforcement373-1230
 Parks and Recreation Division373-9900
 Wildlife Division373-1263

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

RICHARD H. AUSTIN BUILDING

430 WEST ALLEGAN STREET

LANSING 48918

Terri Lynn Land, Secretary of State

Information373-2510
 Bureau of Elections373-2540
 Department of State Information Center
 Toll-Free 1-888-767-6424
 Legal and Regulatory Services241-3463

DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE

714 SOUTH HARRISON ROAD

EAST LANSING 48823

Peter C. Munoz, Director

Information332-2521
 Criminal Background Checks322-1956
 Fingerprint Help Desk322-1956
 Freedom of Information Unit322-5509
 Office of Highway Safety Planning336-6477
 Sex Offender Registry322-5098
 Traffic Safety Division336-6195

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MURRAY D. VANWAGONER BUILDING

425 WEST OTTAWA STREET

P.O. BOX 30050

LANSING 48909

Kirk Steudle, Director

Information.....	373-2090
Bureau of Highway Development.....	241-3998
Bureau of Transportation Planning	373-2240
Communications	373-2160
Passenger Transportation Division	373-0471

DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY

RICHARD H. AUSTIN BUILDING

430 WEST ALLEGAN STREET

LANSING 48922

Robert J. Kleine, State Treasurer

Information	373-3200
Income Tax Division	Toll-Free 1-800-827-4000
Michigan Business Tax	636-4657
Michigan Education Trust.....	335-4767
Sales, Use, and Withholding Taxes Division	636-4730
Student Financial Services Bureau	Toll-Free 1-800-642-5626, ext. 37054
Taxpayer Advocate Office.....	636-4230
Unclaimed Property.....	636-5320

LEGISLATIVE OFFICES

CLERK OF THE HOUSE

P.O. BOX 30014
 LANSING 48909-7514
 Information.....373-0135

SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

P.O. BOX 30036
 LANSING 48909-7536
 Information.....373-2400

HOUSE FISCAL AGENCY

ANDERSON BUILDING
 LANSING 48933
 Information.....373-8080

SENATE FISCAL AGENCY

P.O. BOX 30036
 LANSING 48909-7536
 Information.....373-2768

HOUSE DEMOCRATIC STAFF

ANDERSON BUILDING
 Information.....373-0150

SENATE MAJORITY POLICY OFFICE

GEORGE W. ROMNEY BUILDING
 Information.....373-3330

HOUSE REPUBLICAN STAFF

ANDERSON BUILDING
 Information.....373-1150

SENATE DEMOCRATIC STAFF

GEORGE W. ROMNEY BUILDING
 Information.....373-7370

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ADMINISTRATOR

P.O. BOX 30036
 LANSING 48909-7536
 Information.....373-0212

LEGISLATIVE SERVICE BUREAU

P.O. BOX 30036
 LANSING 48909-7536
 Information.....373-0170

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FACILITIES AGENCY

NORTH CAPITOL ANNEX
 LANSING 48909
 Information.....373-0184
 Capitol Tour Service.....373-2353

MICHIGAN LAW REVISION COMMISSION

P.O. BOX 30036
 LANSING 48909-7536
 Information.....339-0436

**MICHIGAN COMMISSION ON
 UNIFORM STATE LAWS**

P.O. BOX 30036
 LANSING 48909-7536
 Information.....373-0212

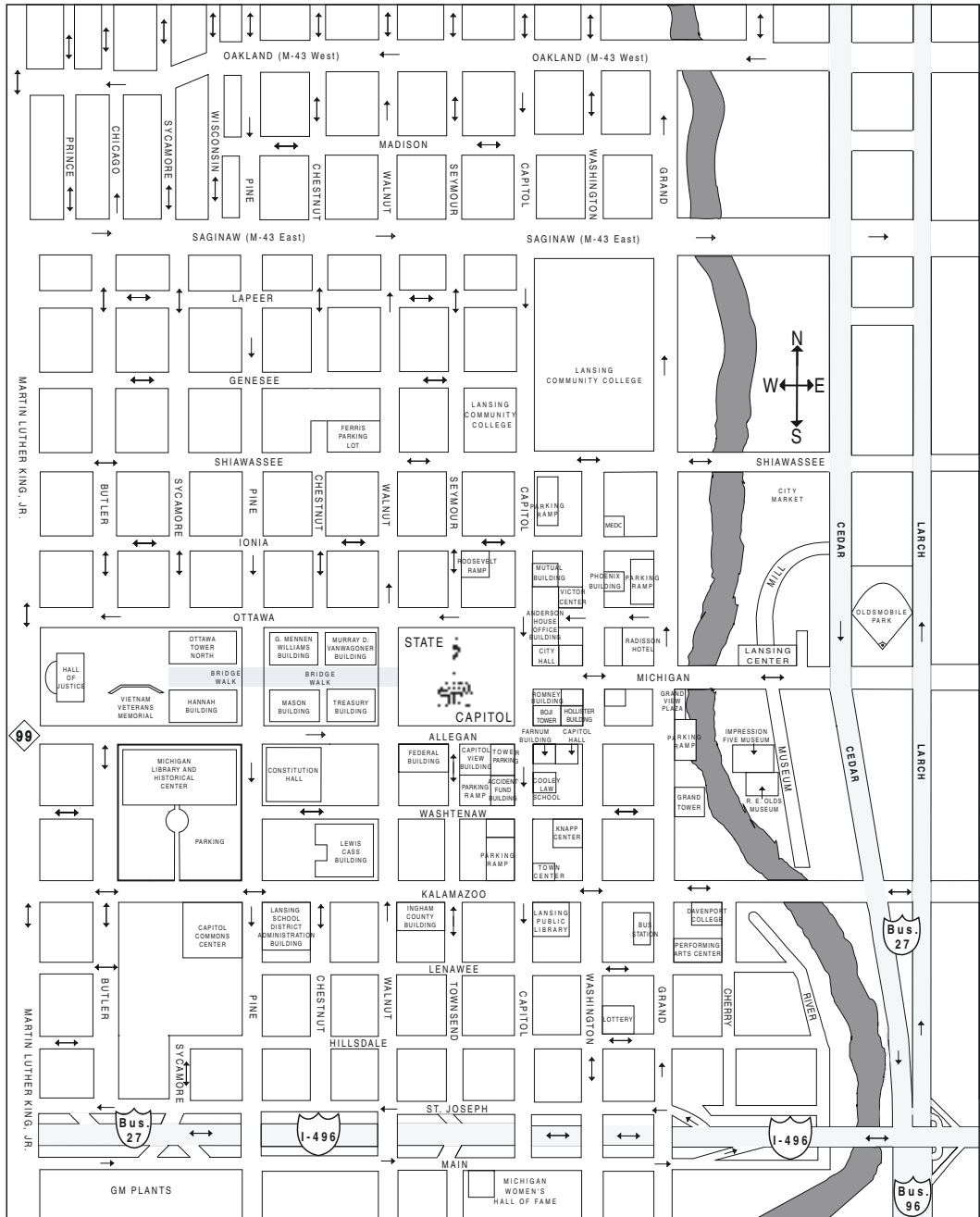
JOINT COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

P.O. BOX 30036
 LANSING 48909-7536
 Information.....373-6476

OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

201 NORTH WASHINGTON SQUARE
 LANSING 48913
 Information.....334-8050

DOWNTOWN LANSING



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upon request, in an alternative, accessible format.*
