

**BILLS SIGNED INTO LAW
&
RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED**

Following are the remaining Public Acts of 2009,
as well as resolutions adopted through December 31, 2009.

2009 Public Acts

PA 121 – SCHOOL AID BUDGET

Provides appropriations for School Aid for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

*Signed 10/19/09 w/line-item vetoes; immediate effect.
(HB 4447)*

PA 122 – SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

Provides multi-department supplemental appropriations for Fiscal Year 2008-2009.

Signed 10/19/09; immediate effect. (SB 95)

PA 129 – HUMAN SERVICES BUDGET

Provides appropriations for the Department of Human Services for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

*Signed 10/29/09 w/line-item vetoes; immediate effect.
(SB 248)*

PA 130 – DELEG BUDGET

Provides appropriations for the Department of Energy, Labor and Economic Growth for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

*Signed 10/29/09 w/line-item vetoes; immediate effect.
(SB 243)*

PA 131 – COMMUNITY HEALTH BUDGET

Provides appropriations for the Department of Community Health for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

*Signed 10/29/09 w/line-item vetoes; immediate effect.
(HB 4436)*

PA 132 – HIGHER EDUCATION BUDGET

Provides appropriations for state institutions of higher education for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

Signed 10/29/09; immediate effect. (HB 4441)

PA 134 – TUITION DEDUCTION

Authorizes an income tax deduction for charitable contributions by an individual to the state Advance Tuition Payment Fund, a program that provides for prepayment of a particular child's future tuition at state universities.

Signed 11/3/09; immediate effect. (HB 4191)

PA 135 – ADVANCE TUITION

Authorizes a Michigan Business Tax deduction for charitable contributions by a small business owner to the state Advance Tuition Payment Fund.

Signed 11/3/09; immediate effect. (HB 4629)

PA 140 – SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

Provides supplemental appropriations for various state departments and agencies for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 and 2009-2010.

Signed 11/6/09; immediate effect. (HB 4311)

PA 145 – SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

Provides supplemental appropriations for various state departments and agencies for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

Signed 11/13/09; immediate effect. (SB 608)

Michigan League for Human Services

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PA 152 – UTILITY SHUTOFF PROCEDURES

Requires a municipally-owned electric or natural gas provider to postpone a shutoff of service for up to 21 days if the customer or a member of his or her household were a critical care customer or had a certified medical emergency.

Signed 11/20/09; immediate effect. (HB 4386)

PA 153 – UTILITY SHUTOFF PROCEDURES

Requires the Department of Human Services to operate an electronic payment process with participating energy providers to provide for the payment of low-income customer energy bills that were subject to shutoff.

Signed 11/20/09; immediate effect. (HB 4650)

PA 154 – UTILITY SHUTOFF PROCEDURES

Requires municipal utilities to notify the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) of any cases where shutting off the service of a customer who has not paid his or her bills causes injury or death, and gives the MPSC the authority to investigate such cases.

Signed 11/20/09; immediate effect. (HB 4655)

PA 155 – BABYSITTING SERVICES

Exempts babysitting services from state child care licensure mandates in cases where a person is temporarily caring for a child on behalf of the child's parent or guardian, whether or not compensation is received as long as the care is not provided as part of the individual's vocation.

Signed 11/20/09; immediate effect. (HB 5514)

PA 170 – ENERGY ASSISTANCE

Amends the Michigan Low Income Heating Assistance and Shutoff Protection Act to require the Department of Human Services to make information about people who have applied for or are receiving public assistance available to energy providers when necessary to administer a program intended to help defray energy costs and prevent utility shutoffs.

Signed 12/14/09; immediate effect. (SB 553)

PA 171 – UTILITY SHUTOFF NOTICE

Prohibits a municipal utility from shutting off the service of a customer who has not paid his or her bills unless it has complied with state administrative rules.

Signed 12/14/09; immediate effect. (SB 554)

PA 172 – UTILITY SHUTOFFS

Authorizes the State Attorney General or any customer to sue a municipal utility that failed to comply with restrictions

on shutting off the service of a customer who hasn't paid his or her bills, if the shutoff caused injury or death.

Signed 12/14/09; immediate effect. (SB 557)

PA 173 – SENIOR UTILITY CUSTOMERS

Requires municipally-owned electric and natural gas utilities to make efforts to determine which customers are senior citizens.

Signed 12/14/09; immediate effect. (HB 4658)

PA 174 – UTILITY SHUTOFF PROCEDURES

Requires municipally-owned utilities to comply with Michigan Public Service Commission rules regarding shutoff procedures.

Signed 12/14/09; immediate effect. (HB 4673)

PA 186 & 187 – FOSTER CARE

Amends the Revised School Code (PA 186) and the State School Aid Act (PA 187), to require a school district to allow a child placed in foster care to attend the appropriate grade in the school in which he or she is placed by the Department of Human Services or a child placing agency, regardless of whether the child is residing in that school district.

Signed 12/17/09; immediate effect. (HB 5298 & 5299)

PA 188 – SMOKING BAN

Prohibits smoking in public places, in places of employment, and in food service establishments.

Signed 12/18/09; immediate effect. (HB 4377)

PA 193 – CHILD SUPPORT/PARENTING

Revises the procedures and penalties for delinquent child support payers.

Signed 12/28/09; immediate effect. (SB 100)

PA 194 – CHILD SUPPORT/PARENTING

Revises the procedures for the suspension and reinstatement of a driver's license due to a child support arrearage which includes an additional \$45 driver license clearance fee to get the license back.

Signed 12/28/09; immediate effect. (HB 5503)

PA 195 – DONATED CAR CREDIT

Eliminates the sunset on the law that authorizes an income tax credit of up to \$50 (\$100 for joint returns) for the donation of an automobile to a qualified charity for transfer to certain low-income persons eligible for public assistance.

Signed 12/28/09; immediate effect. (SB 563)

PA 201-202 – “RACE TO THE TOP” GRANTS

The following public acts modify various state laws to make Michigan eligible for federal “Race to the Top” grants, a national competition for states to lead the way in school reforms, backed by historic levels of financial support.

PA 201 – Provides for changes in the Collective Bargaining Act to allow more flexibility in failing schools. (HB 4788)

PA 202 – Establishes a process for a person to earn an interim teaching certificate that would qualify the person to teach in the public schools and, after three years of satisfactory performance, receive a teaching certificate. The process would not allow for an interim certificate for special education. (HB 5596)

PA 203 – Provides funding for the "schools of excellence" program. (SB 926)

PA 204 & 205 – Provides for certain measures to identify and restructure failing schools. (HB 4787 & SB 981)

Signed 1/4/10; immediate effect.

PA 215 – RENTAL MOBILE HOMES

Expands the rental home inspection program to cover rented mobile homes.

Signed 1/4/10; immediate effect. (HB 4801)

PA 216 – NURSE LICENSES

Increases the licensing fees for the nursing profession.

Signed 1/4/10; immediate effect. (HB 5593)

PA 219 – MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT POLICIES

Prohibits the use of genetic information in denying or pricing Medicare supplemental insurance policies.

Signed 1/5/10; immediate effect. (SB 744)

PA 220 – MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT POLICIES

Revises the requirements pertaining to Medicare supplemental insurance policies (also called Medigap policies).

Signed 1/5/10; immediate effect. (HB 5235)

PA 233 – FRIEND OF THE COURT

Makes a number of revisions to procedures and protocols of Friend of the Court offices in the administration and oversight of court orders related to child custody disputes.

Signed 1/8/10; immediate effect. (SB 99)

PA 234 – CHILD SUPPORT

Deletes a provision in the Divorce Act requiring those ordered to pay spousal or child support to pay a \$2 monthly service fee to the county general fund.

Signed 1/8/10; immediate effect. (SB 105)

PA 235 – OUT-OF-WEDLOCK CHILD EXPENSES

Provides that the parents of a child born out of wedlock are liable for the medical expenses connected to the mother's pregnancy and the birth of the child, and revises the requirements for apportioning the cost of those expenses between the parents in a paternity action.

Signed 1/8/10; immediate effect. (SB 106)

PA 236 – SINGLE-PARENT CHILD EXPENSES

Adds pregnancy expenses to the amount a court can order the father of a child born out of wedlock to pay; prohibits a child support order from being retroactive to before the support complaint was filed; and provides for the abatement of any remaining unpaid pregnancy expenses if the father married the mother or they became reconciled.

Signed 1/8/10; immediate effect. (SB 107)

PA 237 – GRANDPARENTING TIME DISPUTE

Amends the Child Custody Act to refer to "alternative dispute resolution," rather than "domestic relations mediation," in provisions regarding a motion for grandparenting time.

Signed 1/8/10; immediate effect. (HB 5501)

PA 238 – OFFICE OF CHILD SUPPORT

Requires the Office of Child Support and State Court Administrative Office to contract with the Friend of the Court to provide Title IV-D services.

Signed 1/8/10; immediate effect. (HB 5502)

PA 239 – CUSTODY AND SUPPORT ACTIONS

Revises procedural details of the law that authorizes court fees from divorce, paternity, and family support cases.

Signed 1/8/10; immediate effect. (HB 5504)

Resolutions Adopted

SR 103 – RURAL AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Urges the United States Congress to enact the Investment in Rural Afterschool Programs Act.

Adopted 12/18/09. (Richardville)

BILLS PENDING

Status of bills updated through December 31, 2009.

Adoption

SB 891-893 – ADOPTION CONSENT

A package of bills that attempt to expedite the adoption process of children who are wards of the state.

SB 891 – Authorizes the Michigan Children's Institute (MCI) superintendent or his or her designee to consent to the guardianship of a child committed to the MCI.

SB 892 – Amends the Michigan Adoption Code to permit the designee of an authorized representative of the Department of Human Services to consent to the adoption of a child.

SB 893 – Amends the Juvenile Code to authorize a designee of the MCI superintendent to grant consent to the appointment of a guardian for a child.

Senate passed 12/9/09; to House Families & Children's Services 12/9/09. (Jansen, et. al.)

Education

SB 925 – SCHOOLS OF EXCELLENCE

Amends the Revised School Code to create a new category of charter school called a "school of excellence."

Senate passed substitute 12/2/09; to House Education 12/2/09; reported with recommendation with substitute and referred to second reading 12/10/09. (Thomas)

SR 88 – OVERRIDE REQUEST

Urges the Michigan House of Representatives to begin the veto override process on the Governor's line-item veto of the section 20j hold harmless School Aid funding in Public Act 121 of 2009.

Introduced 10/21/09; to Appropriations; reported favorably without amendments and placed on order of resolutions 11/4/09. (Pappageorge)

HB 5623 – SCHOOL CODE REVISIONS

Establishes certain annual teacher evaluation requirements; requires charter school contract rewards to be based on student performance; revises the compulsory attendance requirements to phase-in a lower school starting age and to raise the school-leaving age to 18; requires that schools provide all-day kindergarten;

mandates the certification of school administrators; and allows schools to start classes before Labor Day.

Introduced 12/1/09; to Education; reported with recommendation with substitute and referred to second reading 12/8/09. (Melton)

HB 5636 – SCHOOL AID ACT REVISIONS

Revises the per pupil funding allocation to some charter schools to include a special education student factor; provides for connecting individual teachers with student performance data; revises the starting age for kindergarten; and revises funding provisions for full-day kindergarten.

Introduced 12/1/09; to Education; reported with recommendation with substitute and referred to second reading 12/8/09. (Melton)

Elections/Legislative Issues

SB 690-695 – VOTER REGISTRATION

SB 690 & 691 – Prohibits paying a person to collect voter registrations based on the number of registrations they solicit (rather than a flat hourly wage), and sets sentencing guidelines.

SB 692 & 693 – Prohibits paying or otherwise rewarding a person for voting or refraining from voting, for registering to vote, or for inducing another person to register, and establishes penalties.

SB 694 & 695 – Sets penalties for illegal or fraudulent voter registration.

All bills were introduced 7/15/09; to Campaign & Election Oversight; SB 692-695 were referred to the committee of the whole (SB 692, 694 & 695 with substitutes) 12/10/09. (Brown & Kuipers)

SB 951-954 – BALLOT INITIATIVES

SB 951 – Requires that statewide ballot initiative language that proposes to amend the State Constitution be pre-approved for clarity by the State Board of Canvassers before being circulated.

SB 952 – Revises the requirements for ballot question petitions.

SB 953 – Requires the Secretary of State to post on its website a statement describing the subject matter of a proposal to amend the Constitution or initiate legislation, as

it appeared on the petition form, at least 18 hours before the Board of State Canvassers was scheduled to meet to consider approving the petition form.

SB 954 – Provides technical amendments to the Michigan Election Law concerning ballot question petitions.

Introduced 10/28/09; Campaign & Election Oversight; reported favorably by committee of the whole with substitutes 11/18/09. (McManus)

SB 999 & 1000 – VOTER FRAUD

Amends the Michigan Election Law (SB 999) and the Code of Criminal Procedure (SB 1000) to prohibit and prescribe a criminal penalty for knowingly submitting a fraudulent or forged voter registration application, and includes the proposed felony in the sentencing guidelines.

Both bills were introduced 12/2/09; to Campaign & Election Oversight; SB 999 was reported favorably without amendments and referred to committee of the whole 12/10/09. (McManus)

HB 4997 – CAMPAIGN FINANCE

Provides for general amendments for contributions and expenditures made under the Campaign Finance Act.

House passed substitute 10/29/09; to Senate Campaign & Election Oversight 11/4/09. (Geiss)

HB 5560 – CANDIDATE FILING

Standardizes the election filing deadline in odd-year elections to the twelfth Tuesday before the primary or general election.

House passed 11/4/09; to Senate Campaign & Election Oversight 11/5/09. (Slavens)

Health

SB 689 – PRESCRIPTIONS

Allows a Schedule 2 controlled substance prescription to be filled up to 90, rather than 60, days after it was issued.

Senate passed substitute 9/17/09; to House Health Policy 9/17/09; reported with recommendation without amendments and referred to second reading 10/20/09. (George)
(Similar to HB 5410 – Angerer.)

SB 927 – RETIREE HEALTH

Allows local governments the authority to borrow, without a vote of the people, to pay for the health benefits that current and past officials have offered to government employees after they retire.

Introduced 10/20/09; to Appropriations; referred to committee of the whole with substitute 12/19/09. (Jansen)

HB 5591 – HEALTH INITIATIVE PROGRAM

Repeals the requirements that a Michigan Health Initiative Program and Fund, started in 1988, must maintain a public clearinghouse of information on preventable diseases, conduct a media campaign, and produce public service announcements regarding disease prevention and risk reduction.

Introduced 11/12/09; to Appropriations; reported with recommendation without amendments and referred to second reading 11/18/09. (Smith)

HB 5671 – HEALTH BENEFITS REPORTING

Requires public employers to file information with the Department of Management of Budget on the health benefits it provides to employees, including the type of plan and benefits, total annual premium costs, employee share of annual costs, a description of other costs such as employee copayments or coinsurance, and the number of employees receiving health benefits.

Introduced 12/9/09; to Public Employee Health Care Reform; reported with recommendation with substitute and referred to second reading 12/16/09. (Pavlov)

Housing

SB 283 – NONPROFIT HOUSES

Assesses houses owned by certain nonprofit organizations and Habitat for Humanity at the sales price.

Senate passed substitute 11/5/09; to House Tax Policy 11/5/09. (Jelinek)

HB 5657-5659 – MIGRANT LABOR HOUSING

HB 5657 – Imposes a \$5 per unit migrant labor housing licensing and inspection fee.

HB 5658 – Repeals a migrant housing matching grant program, and earmarks revenue from the fee proposed by HB 5657 and HB 5659 for a migrant labor licensing and inspection program.

HB 5659 – Establishes a nonrefundable reinspection licensing fee for each camp location that does not meet the initial or subsequent inspection.

Introduced 12/8/09; to Appropriations; reported with recommendation without amendments and referred to second reading 12/9/09. (Espinoza)

Revenues & Appropriations

HB 4860 – SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

Provides appropriations for multisection School Aid for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

House passed substitute as amended 11/5/09; to Senate Appropriations 11/10/09. (T. Brown)

HB 5403 – SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

Provides supplemental appropriations for various state departments for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

House passed substitute as amended 9/30/09; to Senate Appropriations 10/13/09. (Cushingberry)

Seniors & Adult Services

HB 4621 – VULNERABLE ADULT TESTIMONY

Allows videotape or closed-circuit television testimony of a vulnerable adult in cases involving financial exploitation or embezzlement of a vulnerable adult's assets.

House passed substitute as amended 12/3/09; to Senate Judiciary 12/8/09. (Slavens)

HB 5190 – SENIOR MEDICAL ALERT PROGRAM

Provides for a senior medical alert program to assist in resolving reported cases of missing persons over age 60 who are believed to be unable to return home without assistance.

House passed substitute 10/13/09; to Senate Senior Citizens & Veterans Affairs 10/14/09. (Meadows)

HB 5191 – SENIOR ABUSE REPORTING

Requires a nursing home employee who becomes aware of patient mistreatment, abuse, or neglect to not only report the incident to the nursing home administrator, but also to the Department of Community Health.

House passed 11/4/09; to Senate Families & Human Services 11/5/09. (Womack)

HB 5210 – VULNERABLE ADULT ABUSE

Requires county prosecutors and social service departments to develop protocols for interviews and investigations of abuse and neglect involving vulnerable adults.

House passed substitute 12/3/09; to Senate Senior Citizens & Veterans Affairs 12/8/09. (Slavens)

Taxes

SB 887 – ELDERLY/DISABLED EXEMPTIONS

Revises details and procedures for payments by the state in lieu of property taxes made to local governments when property tax exemptions are granted to nonprofit entities that provide housing to elderly families or the disabled.

Introduced 10/7/09; to Finance; placed on order of third reading with amendments 12/17/09. (Jansen)

HB 4514 – EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT

Requires a person to be a state resident for at least six months to qualify for a state earned income tax credit.

House passed substitute 3/18/09; Senate passed substitute 10/8/09. (Lahti)

HB 5257-5265 & 4050 – POVERTY EXEMPTIONS/ FORECLOSURES

A package of bills that amend various sections of the General Property Tax Act to revise protocols concerning property tax poverty exemptions, foreclosures on tax-delinquent property by governmental units, and property tax notices.

Introduced 8/19/09; to Tax Policy; reported with recommendation (HB 5263 & 4050 with substitutes) and referred to second reading 10/13/09. (Leland, et. al.)

HB 5296 – EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT

Requires employers to annually provide employees information on the federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).

Introduced 9/2/09; to Labor; reported with recommendation without amendments & referred to second reading 12/16/09. (Warren)

HB 5352 – INCOME TAX

Amends the Income Tax Act to freeze the amount of the personal exemption for the 2009 and 2010 tax years.

House passed substitute 10/6/09; to Senate Finance 10/8/09. (Cushingberry)

HB 5355 – TOBACCO TAX

Modifies the tax on certain tobacco products.

Introduced 9/10/09; to Tax Policy; reported with recommendation with amendments and referred to second reading 10/6/09. (Cushingberry) (Similar to SB 842 – Switalski.)

HB 5384 – MICHIGAN BUSINESS TAX

Authorizes a credit against the Michigan Business Tax for one part of the extra tax a physician's practice is expected to pay due to the Quality Assurance Assessment Program (QAAP) fee on physicians.

House passed as amended 10/6/09; to Senate Finance 10/8/09. (Cushingberry)

HB 5386 – PHYSICIAN QAAP

Establishes a new Quality Assurance Assessment Program (QAAP) fee on physicians.

House passed substitute 10/6/09; to Senate Health Policy 10/8/09; placed on immediate passage; votes defeated twice 10/28/09. (Cushingberry) (Similar to SB 854 – Switalski.)

HCR 29 – DONOR STATES

Urges the U.S. Congress to enact a Taxpayer Equity Act prohibiting states with levels of unemployment that exceed the national average from being donor states.

House adopted 11/10/09; to Senate Finance 11/12/09. (Barnett)

Miscellaneous

SB 750 – PROPERTY DONATION

Allows real property seized under forfeiture provisions of illegal drug laws to be given to government agencies or nonprofit agencies for various purposes.

Senate passed substitute 12/10/09; to House Intergovernmental and Regional Affairs 12/10/09. (Pappageorge)

HB 4915 – CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT

Eliminates a provision of the Consumer Protection Act that excludes from its provisions matters governed by other comprehensive regulatory regimes in state law, including the state Insurance Code.

Introduced 5/12/09; to Judiciary; reported with recommendation with amendments and referred to second reading 11/4/09. (Robert Jones)

HB 5176-5180 – PRISONER REENTRY

This package of bills amends various acts to ease the ability of prisoners, after release upon parole or completion of their sentences, to obtain driver's licenses and state personal I.D. cards, and to create a debit card by which former prisoners could access money left in their prisoner accounts.

House passed as amended 12/16/09; to Senate Judiciary 12/18/09. (Kandrevas, et. al.)

HB 5346-5351 – DEVELOPMENT CORPORATIONS

Creates the Next Michigan Development Act to provide for the creation of up to ten *Next Michigan Development Corporations* that would have as their purpose encouraging economic development and investment, job creation and job retention, and ancillary economic growth.

House passed substitutes (HB 5346 with amendments) 12/10/09. (Geiss, et. al.)

HB 5628 – LOW-COST INSURANCE

Authorizes a low-cost auto insurance pilot program for drivers of low to moderate incomes with good records who own cars worth less than \$20,000.

Introduced 12/1/09; to Insurance; reported with recommendation without amendments and referred to second reading 12/3/09. (Valentine) (Similar to SB 1020 – Clarke.)

HB 5632 – REVOLVING DOOR

Prohibits the state insurance commissioner from working for insurance companies or their lobbyists for two years after leaving office.

House passed 12/16/09; to Senate Economic Development & Regulatory Reform 12/18/09. (Scripps) (Similar to SB 1027 – Gleason.)

BILLS INTRODUCED

Status of bills updated through December 31, 2009.

Children & Families

SB 1049-1055 – SEX OFFENDERS

SB 1049 – Authorizes the possibility of lifetime parole for convicted child sex offenders following completion of a regular prison sentence; requires participation in a regular program of sex offender treatment; and requires supervision by officers with special training in the supervision of sex offenders.

SB 1050 – Requires that child sexual abuse criminal records be kept for at least 50 years.

SB 1051, 1054, 1055 – Prohibits convicted child sex offenders, whether on probation (SB 1051), parole (SB 1054) or day parole (SB 1055), from participating in any activities traditionally conducted during holidays when individuals less than 18 years of age are present, including wearing a Halloween costume or dispensing candy.

SB 1052 – Requires individuals on the state sex offender registry to notify law enforcement within five days if they move from their registered address.

SB 1053 – Prohibits a convicted child sex offender from knowingly living in the same apartment complex where another convicted child sex offender lives.

Introduced 12/18/09; to Judiciary. (Whitmer)

HB 5606 – POSTHUMOUS ADOPTIONS

Allows a person who adopted a child at the start of 2004 to retroactively collect Medicaid or other state medical assistance even if the child has died.

Introduced 11/18/09; to Families & Children's Services. (Spade)

HB 5699 – MINOR VICTIMS

Extends the statute of limitations for certain criminal sexual conduct offenses committed against minors.

Introduced 12/15/09; to Judiciary. (Kennedy)

HB 5715 – CHILD SUPPORT

Imposes an annual fee on recipients of child support payments processed by the central state office of child support that handles such transactions.

Introduced 12/17/09; to Families & Children's Services. (Spade)

Corrections

HB 5538 & 5539 – INDIGENT DEFENSE

HB 5538 imposes an additional fee for an inmate or defendant posting bond or bail, and new fines for jumping bail, with the money going into a fund to pay for the legal defense of indigent defendants. HB 5539 creates a new fund to pay for the legal defense of indigent defendants, with the money coming from the new bail or bond posting fees and fines proposed by HB 5538.

Introduced 10/22/09; to Appropriations. (Cushingberry)

HB 5676 – INDIGENT DEFENDANTS

Creates a statewide public defense system to provide appointed counsel to indigent defendants in criminal cases, transferring responsibility and costs from the counties.

Introduced 12/9/09; to Judiciary. (Constan)

Education

SB 922 & 923 – STUDENT SAFETY ZONES

SB 923 redefines the "school safety zone" law that restricts registered sex offenders from entering an area within 1,000 feet of school property so that this also applies to a zone within 300 feet of school bus stops, and SB 922 establishes sentencing guidelines.

Introduced 10/20/09; to Judiciary. (Sanborn)

SB 994 – TEACHER PERFORMANCE

Authorizes the distribution of federal "Race to the Top" money (if Michigan receives funding) to school districts to pay for teacher performance grant programs.

Introduced 12/2/09; to Appropriations. (Birkholz)

SB 1009 – SCHOOL BUS INSPECTIONS

Requires the State Police to inspect at least 25 percent of school buses each year, instead of all of them, and allows the inspections to be outsourced to private inspectors, rather than government employees.

Introduced 12/8/09; to Education. (Kuipers) (Similar to HB 5653 – Genetski.)

HB 5500 – SCHOOL SPENDING

Requires school districts to annually report to the Department of Education the percentage of their operations budgets that is actually spent on instruction (rather than administration or other functions), and requires the department to post this on the Internet.

Introduced 10/7/09; to Education. (Knollenberg)

HB 5505 – STUDENT SAFETY ZONES

Expands the definition of “student safety zone” under the Sex Offender Registration Act to include bus stops.

Introduced 10/8/09; to Judiciary. (Knollenberg)

HB 5509 & 5510 – KINDERGARTEN

HB 5509 allows a child who reaches age five before September 1 to enroll in a public school kindergarten. HB 5510 revises the eligibility requirements to be counted in kindergarten membership.

Introduced 10/13/09; to Education. (Slezak)

HB 5561 – SCHOOL CONSOLIDATION

Creates a temporary School District Modernization Advisory Commission to study the issue of consolidating Michigan’s 551 school districts.

Introduced 10/28/09; to Education. (Miller)

HB 5607 & 5608 – SCHOOL CUTS

HB 5607 authorizes the state Superintendent of Public Instruction to cut the pay and benefits of employees in a school district that requests this, if it has an operating fund deficit, if its teacher pay is in the highest one-third nationally, and if its health care benefits exceed Michigan private sector averages. HB 5608 revises the Public Employees Relations Act to accommodate the powers that HB 5607 would give to the state Superintendent of Public Instruction to cut the pay and benefits of school employees.

Introduced 11/18/09; to Labor. (McMillin)

HB 5609 – TEACHER MERIT PAY

Amends the Revised School Code to include job performance and accomplishments as factors when determining an educator’s compensation.

Introduced 11/18/09; to Education. (Melton)

HB 5610 – EDUCATIONAL NEGLECT

Defines a parent’s failure to ensure a child’s regular attendance at school as a form of child neglect, unless the family is homeschooling the child.

Introduced 11/18/09; to Education. (Melton)

HB 5611 – YOUTH CHALLENGE PROGRAM

Restores funding for Fiscal Year 2010 for the Michigan Youth Challenge Academy, a no-cost, voluntary residential program for 16-19 year old high school dropouts and potential dropouts.

Introduced 12/1/09; to Appropriations. (Segal)

HB 5639 – PHYSICAL FORCE

Establishes that “reasonable physical force” could only be used on a pupil during an emergency situation when a student’s unpredictable, spontaneous behavior causes a threat of imminent, serious physical harm, and can’t be immediately prevented by any less restrictive measure.

Introduced 12/2/09; to Education. (Kennedy)

HB 5644 – TEACHER PAY CUTS

Provides for changes to the Teacher Tenure Act to allow school districts to make across-the-board pay cuts under certain circumstances as outlined in HB 5607.

Introduced 12/2/09; to Education. (McMillin)

HB 5683 – SCHOOL READINESS EVALUATION

Requires certain government preschool reading programs to use the "Get It, Got It, Go!" screening assessment of preschool literacy benchmarks developed by the Center for Early Education Development at the University of Minnesota.

Introduced 12/10/09; to Education. (Spade)

HB 5710-5712 – MEAP TEST

HB 5710 replaces the state MEAP (Michigan Educational Assessment Program) test with a nationally recognized, commercially available test. HB 5711 & 5712 revise references to the MEAP test in the School Aid Act and the Revised School Code, respectively.

Introduced 12/17/09; to Education. (Sheltrown)

HR 192 – K-12 FUNDING

Expresses the sense of the House of Representatives that immediate steps must be taken to restore fully the educational funding previously reduced through the 20j veto and the proration per pupil cut.

Introduced 12/18/09; to Education. (Knollenberg)

Elections/Legislative Issues

SB 888 – CONSOLIDATED ELECTIONS

Requires all elections in the state to be held on either the August or November election days.

Introduced 10/8/09; to Campaign & Election Oversight (Switalski)

SB 937 – LOCAL ELECTIONS

Allows a city that currently holds its regular election on a day other than the even-year general election to change to the even-year general (November) election.

Introduced 10/21/09; to Campaign & Election Oversight (McManus)

SB 938 – ELECTION LAW PENALTIES

Authorizes the state Attorney General, or any person who believes that a person or group is violating voter registration laws, to seek a court injunction to compel compliance or enjoin further noncompliance with those laws.

Introduced 10/21/09; to Campaign & Election Oversight (McManus)

SB 946 – LEGISLATOR EXPENSE ALLOWANCES

Allows legislators to collect reimbursement for documented travel and lodging expenses only when those expenses are related to attending sessions in Lansing, and requires that receipts for those expenses be posted on a website made available to the public.

Introduced 10/28/09; to Local, Urban & State Affairs. (Whitmer)

SB 947 – JUDGESHIPS

Reduces the number of state court of appeals judges and revises the number of circuit, district, and probate judges in a number of districts and circuits.

Introduced 10/28/09; Judiciary. (Cropsey)

SB 984 – CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS

Prohibits a candidate from making a cash contribution to an organization in exchange for its endorsement in an election.

Introduced 11/12/09; to Campaign & Election Oversight (Brown)

SB 985 – CAMPAIGN FINANCE

Replaces the current campaign finance reporting schedule for candidates with one that requires quarterly reports.

Introduced 11/12/09; to Campaign & Election Oversight (Brown)

SJR N – LEGISLATIVE PAY PENALTY

Reduces compensation for legislators who have unexcused absences from session.

Introduced 10/28/09; to Campaign & Election Oversight. (Whitmer)

HB 5517 – CANDIDATE CRIMINAL DEFENSE

Bans a political candidate committee from using campaign contributions to defend or pay the legal costs of an elected or appointed official in a criminal action or to pay legal costs.

Introduced 10/14/09; to Ethics & Elections. (P. Scott)

HJR 00 – TERM LIMITS

Revises term limits to provide for a combination of 14 years' total legislative service.

Introduced 11/12/09; to Ethics & Elections. (Bledsoe)

Employment & Economy

SB 945 – RIGHT-TO-WORK ZONES

Authorizes the creation of "right-to-work" zones whereby employers would be prohibited from compelling an employee or prospective employee to join or financially support a union as a condition of employment.

Introduced 10/27/09; to Commerce & Tourism. (Cassis)

SB 966 – PREVAILING WAGE

Suspends the enforcement of the state prevailing wage law during a period when employers are forced to pay additional taxes to make up a gap or repay federal loans to make up a gap between the amount of unemployment taxes collected from employers and the benefits paid to workers.

Introduced 11/4/09; to Commerce & Tourism. (Brown)

SB 1018 – RIGHT-TO-WORK ZONES

Establishes that "right-to-work" law provisions would apply in tax-exempt renaissance zones, meaning that employers in the zone would be prohibited from compelling an employee or prospective employee to join or financially support a union as a condition of employment.

Introduced 12/10/09; to Commerce & Tourism. (Cassis)

SR 96 – FULL EMPLOYMENT

Urges the United States Congress to enact and put into immediate effect a Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment Act.

Introduced 11/5/09; to Commerce & Tourism. (Gleason)

HB 5217 – UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

Eliminates certain restrictions on the payment of unemployment benefits to an individual laid off from a family business.

Introduced 8/4/09; to Labor. (Green)

HB 5522-5524 – PREVAILING WAGE

HB 5522 repeals the state prevailing wage law that prohibits awarding government contracts to contractors who submit the lowest bid unless the contractor pays prevailing wages, which are based on union pay scales in a particular part of a geographic region. HB 5523 and HB 5524 revise references to reflect the repeal proposed by HB 5522.

Introduced 10/20/09; to Labor. (Agema & Amash)

HB 5660 – UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT ELIGIBILITY

Allows a person participating 20 hours a week as a volunteer in an IRS income tax assistance program to collect unemployment benefits even though he or she is not seeking employment for pay.

Introduced 12/8/09; to Labor. (Scripps)

Health

SB 942 – MEDICAID INSPECTOR

Creates the Office of Medicaid Inspector General.

Introduced 10/22/09; to Health Policy. (Kahn) (Similar to HB 5542 – Genetski.)

SB 1046 & 1047 – PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

SB 1046 limits a public employer's portion of the cost of health insurance benefits. SB 1047 requires government employees to contribute at least 20 percent of the premium and other costs of the health insurance fringe benefit provided by their public employer.

Introduced 12/18/09; to Government Operations & Reform. (Jansen & Sanborn)

SJR P – PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Allows the legislature to regulate health benefits of public employees and officers.

Introduced 12/18/09; to Government Operations & Reform. (Jansen)

HB 5549 – HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

Permits health savings accounts for certain state government employees.

Introduced 10/27/09; to Judiciary. (Marleau)

HB 5624 – PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Creates the Health Benefit Cost Sharing Act that would require government employees and elected officials to pay at least 15 percent of the premium cost of any health benefits provided to them.

Introduced 12/1/09; to Judiciary. (Agema)

HB 5638 – PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Creates the Public Employer Health Insurance Contribution Act that would require government employees and elected officials to pay at least 15 percent of the premium cost of any health benefits provided to them.

Introduced 12/2/09; to Judiciary. (Hildenbrand)

HB 5688-5697 – PUBLIC POOLING

Revises the law authorizing the public school employees retirement (pension) system to conform with the Michigan Health Benefits Program Act.

Introduced 12/10/09; to Public Employee Health Care Reform. (Dillon)

HB 5719 – PARENTAL NOTIFICATION

Requires doctors or health professionals who treat a minor for venereal disease to tell the parents or guardian.

Introduced 12/17/09; to Judiciary. (Meltzer)

Revenues & Appropriations

SCR 30 & SR 104 – BUDGET DEADLINE

Urges the State Officers Compensation Commission to ensure that no compensation is earned by legislators or the governor beginning on July 1 of every year until the Michigan Legislature has passed a balanced budget.

Introduced 12/18/09; to Government Operations & Reform. (Richardville)

HB 5519 – NEW FISCAL YEAR

Changes the state's fiscal year to one that begins on July 1 each year.

Introduced 10/15/09; to Appropriations. (Knollenberg)

HB 5714 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS

Requires that the State pay interest on any payments it is required to make to a local government if they are delayed or postponed.

Introduced 12/17/09; to Government Operations. (Opsommer)

HB 5720 – HUMAN RESOURCES CONSOLIDATION

Authorizes the consolidation of state agencies' human resources departments into a single Office of Human Resource Operations in the Civil Service Department.

Introduced 12/18/09; to Government Operations. (Walsh)

HB 5721 – REVENUE MEETINGS

Requires that revenue target meetings be subject to the Open Meetings Act.

Introduced 12/18/09; to Judiciary. (Calley)

HJR HH – BUDGET DEADLINE

Requires the Legislature to present all general appropriations bills to the governor by July 1, and requires forfeiture of legislators' salaries for failure to present those bills by that date.

Introduced 10/6/09; to Government Operations. (Rogers)

HJR JJ – BUDGET DEADLINE

Requires the Legislature to present all general appropriations bills to the governor by July 1 (with the exception of the School Aid budget which would have a May 15 deadline), and requires forfeiture of legislators' salaries for failure to present those bills by those dates.

Introduced 10/15/09; to Appropriations. (Meekhof)

HJR LL – BUDGET DEADLINE

Requires the Legislature to present all general appropriation bills for the succeeding two fiscal periods to the governor on or before May 15 of each odd year, and requires forfeiture of legislators' salaries for failure to present those bills by those dates.

Introduced 10/20/09; to Government Operations. (DeShazor)

Seniors & Adult Services

SB 895-899 – VULNERABLE ADULT ABUSE

SB 895 – Increase the penalties for the crime of committing or attempting financial exploitation or embezzlement of a vulnerable adult's assets.

SB 896 – Establishes sentencing guidelines for the increased penalties proposed by SB 895.

SB 897 – Provides for forfeiture and revocation of benefits for individuals who abused, neglected, or exploited a decedent.

SB 898 – Revises the penalties for fraudulently obtaining another person's signature with the intention of cheating or defrauding the person.

SB 899 – Establishes sentencing guidelines for the increased penalty proposed by SB 898.

Introduced 10/14/09; to Judiciary. (Whitmer)

SB 907 – VULNERABLE ADULT ABUSE

Authorizes the penalties for a nursing home operator or other person with authority over a vulnerable adult who intentionally retaliates or discriminates against a resident because the resident interferes with or obstructs an investigation under the adult foster care facility.

Introduced 10/20/09; to Judiciary. (Hunter)

SB 961 – VULNERABLE ADULT ABUSE

Authorizes a waiver of legal physician-patient confidentiality privilege if there are allegations that a vulnerable adult has been abused.

Introduced 10/28/09; to Judiciary. (George)

Social Services

SB 905 – FOSTER PARENT RATES

Adjusts the amount of payment a foster parent receives based on whether or not there is a smoker in the household.

Introduced 10/15/09; to Families & Human Services. (George)

SB 941 – PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS

Requires the Department of Human Services to regularly review State Police information on outstanding arrest warrants and not provide public assistance to an individual who is the subject of a warrant.

Introduced 10/22/09; to Families & Human Services. (Barcia)

SB 1007 – BRIDGE CARD PURCHASES

Prohibits public assistance recipients from using bridge cards or other forms of electronic benefit transfer or assistance payment to purchase lottery tickets, and prohibits lottery ticket sellers from accepting bridge cards.

Introduced 12/3/09; to Families & Human Services. (Pappageorge)

HB 5643 – CHILD PLACEMENT

Requires that when a child is removed by the State from a home from which that child's sibling has been previously removed, the Department of Human Services must consider and evaluate placing the child in the same home as the previously removed sibling.

Introduced 12/2/09; to Families & Children's Services. (Calley)

HB 5702-5705 – CHILD FOSTER CARE

HB 5702 – Authorizes the establishment of a legislative child fatality investigator, appointed by the legislative council, who would identify specific causes and systemic problems that contribute to the mortality of children in foster care.

HB 5703 – Requires the state to establish a central database with statistical information on the number of children who died while in foster care, while under court jurisdiction for child abuse or neglect, or after having involvement with Child Protective Services.

HB 5704 – Requires the sharing of case-specific information related to child deaths that occur while in state care.

HB 5705 – Requires the Department of Human Services to provide access to all information it has pertaining to a child who dies after becoming a ward of the state to a probate court that has jurisdiction over the child.

Introduced 12/16/09; to Families & Children's Services. (Haase, et. al.)

Taxes

SB 987 – VETERANS HOME CREDIT

Authorizes an income tax credit for contributions to state veterans homes.

Introduced 11/12/09; to Finance. (Kuipers)

HB 4171 – HOMELESS FUND

Provides for an increase in the county real estate transfer tax for communities creating a Homeless Trust Fund.

Introduced 2/5/09; to Intergovernmental & Regional Affairs. (Robert Jones)

HB 5604 – ENTERTAINMENT TAX

Provides for an excise tax on entertainment and earmarks the revenue for history, arts, and libraries.

Introduced 11/18/09; to Tax Policy. (Cushingberry)

HJR KK & HB 5527-5529 – TAX STRUCTURE

A legislative package that makes changes to Michigan's tax structure.

HJR KK – Places before voters in the next general election a constitutional amendment to lower the 6 percent sales and use tax rates to 5 percent and applies the taxes to services.

HB 5527 & 5528 – Implements a sales tax (HB 5527) and use tax (HB 5528) of 5 percent on services, excluding services to a business entity, educational services, services

provided by a nonprofit organization, and services provided by a physician.

HB 5529 – Repeals the Michigan Business Tax surcharge.

Introduced 10/20/09; to Tax Policy. (Meadows)

HB 5544 – HOME HEATING

Exempts home heating oil from sales tax.

Introduced 10/27/09; to Tax Policy. (Schuitmaker)

Victims' Rights

SB 1003 – CRIME VICTIMS FUND

Allocates excess revenue in the Crime Victim's Rights Fund for a proposed statewide trauma system and treatment services for victims.

Introduced 12/3/09; to Appropriations. (Kahn) (Similar to HB 5666 – Bauer.)

SB 1004 – CRIME VICTIM AWARDS

Increases the maximum award that can be paid to an individual from the state Crime Victim's Rights Fund.

Introduced 12/3/09; to Appropriations. (Kahn) (Similar to HB 5667 – Schuitmaker.)

HB 5592 – CRIME VICTIMS FUND

Removes the sunset on the Crime Victim's Rights Fund excess revenue provision.

Introduced 11/12/09; to Appropriations. (Smith)

Miscellaneous

SB 996 – DETROIT DEFICIT PLAN

Allows municipalities to sell greater amounts of deficit bonds.

Introduced 12/2/09; to Local, Urban & State Affairs. (Hunter)

SB 1021 – INSURANCE CREDIT SCORES

Prohibits auto insurance policies from basing premium prices on a person's job, business, education level, credit history, or lack of credit history.

Introduced 12/10/09; to Economic Development & Regulatory Reform. (Thomas)

HB 5518 – EVICTION NOTICES

Revises the requirements for serving eviction notices.

Introduced 10/15/09; to Judiciary. (Green)

HB 5612 – DONATED FOOD

Establishes that persons donating food to nonprofit organizations or corporations that distribute donated food are immune from civil damages or criminal liability resulting from the nature, age, condition, or packaging of the food unless they knew or had reasonable grounds to know the food was adulterated or not fit for human consumption.

Introduced 12/1/09; to Judiciary. (Bolger)

HB 5652 – DRIVER RESPONSIBILITY FEES

Allows an individual whose income is below 200 percent of the poverty level and who is subject to the driver responsibility fees (“bad driver tax”) that are assessed for various violations, to satisfy the penalty by working for no wage at a nonprofit organization.

Introduced 12/8/09; to Judiciary. (Lemmons)

HB 5672 – DEAF INTERPRETERS

Allows licensure fees paid by interpreters for the deaf to be deposited into an existing Division on Deafness Fund where it would be used to cover costs incurred by the Division on Deaf and Hard of Hearing within the Commission on Disability Concerns.

Introduced 12/9/09; to Regulatory Reform. (Spade)

HB 5716 & 5717 – USED CLOTHING DONATIONS

Requires merchants that deal in used clothes and have a clothing donation box to disclose on the box whether and how much of the donated clothing is given to charitable organizations.

Introduced 12/17/09; to Commerce. (Hansen & Clemente)

Copies of Legislative Bills

Copies of legislative bills are available from the State of Michigan website:

www.legislature.mi.gov

APPOINTMENTS

JUVENILE ACCOUNTABILITY BLOCK GRANT ADVISORY BOARD

The Advisory Board is required by the federal government to serve as the oversight and advisory body for federal juvenile justice funds. It serves as the advisory body for the state's juvenile offenders, including alternatives to incarceration, pretrial services, expeditious handling of juvenile cases, prosecution of violent juvenile offenders, training programs for those involved with juveniles and their families.

John S. Ange of Port Huron, chief of the juvenile division and assistant prosecutor with the Macomb County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, was appointed to represent county prosecutors or assistant county prosecutors for a term expiring 12/31/11. **William L. Federspiel** of Saginaw, Saginaw County sheriff, was appointed to represent county sheriffs or deputy sheriffs for a term expiring 12/31/12. **Wassim B. Mahfouz** of Dearborn Heights, Wayne County executive assistant, was appointed to represent nonprofit, religious, or community groups for a term expiring 12/31/10. **K.P. Pelleran** of Lansing, state director of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids - Michigan, was appointed to represent nonprofit, nongovernmental victim advocacy organizations for a term expiring 12/31/12. **Hon. Michelle M. Rick of St. Johns**, judge of the 29th Circuit Court, was appointed to represent judges of the circuit court with active responsibility for cases involving family law and juvenile justice for a term expiring 12/31/13. *The appointments are not subject to disapproval by the Michigan Senate.*

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